Rubuenog, 3, wins Huggies baby pageant. PAGE 2
Bar Association receives $1.48M under settlement. PAGE 3

Hafa Adai!

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75¢

CW cap issue back to haunt NMI

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The CNMI is facing the same dilemma it faced a few months ago after the numerical limit of the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker nonimmigrant visa or CW program for fiscal year 2017 has been reached. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services cut the fiscal year 2017 cap by one, from 12,999 to 12,998 early last month.

USCIS, on Friday, released information that the numerical limit of 12,998 workers who may be given CW-1 visas for fiscal 2017 has been reached. USCIS set Oct. 14 as the deadline for them to receive CW-1 worker petitions for renewal; all applications sent after that will now be rejected and the filing fees returned.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, who is still in Nevada to attend several meet-

See CW on Page 4

MVA pins hopes on CPA fixing airport woes

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority, which spearheads efforts to lure back tourists to the CNMI, is pinning its hopes on the Commonwealth Ports Authority and its Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport as the CNMI prepares to welcome a bevy of new direct flights through the end of the year.

MVA managing director Christopher Concepcion said he trusts the Commonwealth Ports Authority is working on its problems—nonworking runway lights and malfunc-

See MVA on Page 4

15 Days Before ELECTION DAY

OF $1.4M PAYMENT TO 2 PLANE CRASH SURVIVORS' JUDGMENT:

Marshals seized only $595.84 from HKE's bank accounts

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. Marshals Service was only able to seize $595.84 from the bank accounts of Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investment Ltd., owner of Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino.

The U.S. Marshal Service seized the money on Thursday, shortly after U.S. District Court

See MARSHALS on Page 4

MOST EXPENSIVE CONSTRUCTION

The $550-million Imperial Pacific Resort, a mammoth casino resort investment of the Hong Kong-based investment giant Imperial Pacific Holdings International, Ltd., towers over other existing structures in downtown Garapan, Saipan in this aerial shot taken over the weekend. With its scheduled opening by mid-2017, the Grand Mariana Casino and Hotel Resort will be billed as the most-expensive private investment in the Pacific.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

INSIDE

NATION
Hillary Clinton will end the campaign still struggling to change the minds of millions of voters.

PAGE 15

ASIA
President Rodrigo Duterte says he did not mean he would cut ties with the United States.

PAGE 16

FOCUS
Cyberattacks disrupt the availability of popular websites across the United States.

PAGE 18

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Local

Rebuenog, 3, wins Huggies baby pageant

By MICHAEL T. SANTOS
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REPORTER

At the tender age of 3, Frantina Carmen Rebuenog won her first baby pageant sponsored by the company that sells Huggies on the islands, Marianas Pacific Distributors Inc.

Held under the auspices of the 2016 Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Fair, the pageant was held at the Saipan World Resort on Oct. 22, 2016.

Rebuenog, the No. 11 contestant, was awarded with a case of Huggies, a box of baby wipes, Fisher Price toys, a booster seat, playpen, wrapping blanket, and Enfamil nursery pack.

"We are very grateful for her prizes and she is happy to share some of her prizes with her little sister," said mother Rachel Juana Rebuenog.

The mother, along with Jason Simina, are parents to two daughters, one being the pageant winner and the other being Maria Divine.

When asked about how she feels about her daughter being crowned the winner, Rebuenog said, "It's a great feeling, especially for her [Frantina], considering at her age she can understand how it feels to smile at the crowd and be with other children in costumes. It's a really great feeling to have all our hard work pay off and her enjoying herself."

The contest required Frantina to wear a costume made of Huggies diapers. According to her mother, Frantina's dress was inspired by a princess costume but was more in the old English time and style. "I wanted to do something that was creative yet simple to do. So I wanted to make a princess dress where it 'poofed' down instead of being straight, the back had knots to tighten or loosen, and the skirt was very big."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Frantina, middle, poses with her parents and sister Maria after being crowned winner in the baby pageant on Oct. 22, 2016.

The two sisters originally joined the pageant due to Rebuengo and Simina's inability to allow their children to go trick or treating. The mother said, "In a way, we're making it up to our kids by giving them dresses to wear and act the part of a princess up stage."

Being the children's first pageant, both parents signed them in without thinking their children were going to win. They just wanted Frantina and her sister to attend the competition for the experience and the overall enjoyment.

"We would like to thank Marpac, all the contestants, and most especially our families for all their support!" said Rebuenog.

The fair at the Saipan World Resort also included government and non-government groups such as the Maternal & Child Health Bureau, CNMI Humanities-Motheread Fatheread Program, Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, Division of Public Health-Immunization Program, American Red Cross-NMI Chapter, Department of Public Safety, Division of Public Health-Dental Clinic, Commonwealth Cancer Association, NMC Nursing Club, Golden Harvest International School & Day Care, Green Meadow School, Smart Start Daycare, and Northern Marianas International School.

Of 12 bets for Precinct 3, eight show up at forum

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Of the 12 House of Representatives candidates vying for seats in Saipan's Precinct 3, eight showed up at a public forum organized by the Marianas Young Professionals at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe on Wednesday night.

Twelve individuals will be battling for six House of Representatives Precinct 3 positions, giving the precinct the most number of candidates in the Nov. 8 election. Eight independents and four Republicans are candidates for Precinct 3 that covers Garapan, Oleai and parts of Mt. Tapochau.

The candidates who joined the "Meet the Candidates" forum were Rep. Edmund Joseph Sablan Villagomez (independent), Francisco Santos Dela Cruz (Republican), Rep. Ralph Naraja Yumul (independent), Vicente Castro Cama-

See FORUM on Page 5

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Bar Association receives $1.48M under Bank of America mortgage settlement

BOSTON, Mass.—Eric D. Green, independent monitor of Bank of America's Aug. 20, 2014, mortgage settlement with the U.S. Department of Justice and six states, announced Friday the distribution of $1,478,989 to the CNMI Bar Association, as mandated under the settlement, to provide legal assistance in foreclosure prevention and community redevelopment.

The bar association, headquartered on Saipan, is among 56 state-based legal-assistance organizations receiving funds under the settlement, which settled legal claims arising from mortgage-related activities by Bank of America and its subsidiaries. A distribution was made earlier to NeighborWorks America, a national, congressionally-chartered nonprofit organization that provides training and support for community-based redevelopment programs in the United States and Puerto Rico.

The distributions—totaling more than $490 million nationwide—were triggered last December by President Obama's signing into law an act extending federal tax relief through 2016 to homeowners who otherwise would have incurred income-tax liability from mortgage debt forgiveness they received under consumer-relief provisions of the settlement. The money being distributed to the nonprofit organizations is from a fund established under the settlement to provide federal tax assistance to homeowners in case Congress failed to extend the tax-relief legislation.

With the signing of the legislation, the tax-relief fund became surplus. Under the terms of the settlement, Green is required to distribute 75 percent ($367.62 million) of the fund to eligible legal-assistance organizations in each state and the remaining 25 percent ($122.54 million) to NeighborWorks America.

The settlement provides that in each state, the District of Columbia, and each U.S. territory or possession, to the extent practicable, the legal-assistance organizations are to receive a distribution of $200,000 from the fund, with the remainder to be allocated among the states and other eligible jurisdictions based on poverty population data collected by the U.S. Census Bureau, in the manner used for funding distribution by the Legal Services Corp. As specified in the settlement, these recipients are state-based Interest on Lawyers Trust Account organizations or other state bar association affiliated intermediaries that fund legal aid organizations in their jurisdictions.

Co-signatories to the settlement, besides the bank and the Department of Justice, were the attorneys general of the States of California, Delaware, Illinois, Maryland and New York, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Green, a Boston-based professional mediator and retired Boston University law professor, was hired as independent monitor to oversee the tax-relief fund and the bank's compliance with its ongoing consumer-relief obligations under the settlement.

A full list of recipient organizations and more information about the settlement is available at the monitor's website: http://bankofamerica.mortgagesettlementmonitor.com. The monitor's mailing address is: Monitor of the Bank of America Mortgage Settlement, P.O. Box 10134, Dublin, OH 43017-3134, and the e-mail address is info@mortgagesettlementmonitor.com. ***(BoA)***

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Ruptured main causes water outage

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the public that customers in Chalan Lau Lau, Beach Road, and Middle Road are currently experiencing an emergency water service interruption resulting from a ruptured 16-inch water main below As Terlaje Hill on Chalan Monsignor Guerrero Road.

CUC Water personnel discovered the line break when water began to seep out of the pavement along the innermost eastbound lane just below As Terlaje Hill. Both of the eastbound lanes are currently closed to traffic as crews excavate the site. For the safety of our men and women working at the site, motorists are urged to slow down when traveling through the area and to take alternative routes if possible.

Repairs are anticipated to be completed this afternoon, Oct. 24, 2016, and customers in the affected areas should expect restoration of services soon thereafter as per water hour schedule.

CUC apologizes for any inconvenience resulting from this emergency water service interruption.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/). ***(CUC)***

CW

From Page 1

ings and is expected to be back tomorrow, said in an email that the numerical limit being reached would again impact the CNMI. The announcement of the cap being reached three weeks into this fiscal year will have dramatic effects on the CNMI economy.

"[It] underscores the need to increase our collective efforts to alter the law to allow our economy to continue its growth, strengthen government services, and provide jobs to our residents. Until we get some level of control in this process, the cap will be consistently reached, limiting labor for the existing economy and affecting our long-term guest workers," said Torres.

Torres met with the Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Advisory Committee in Las Vegas and also talked to Nevada gaming officials on issues related to the casino industry, which is new on Saipan.

He said he would continue to work closely with Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) and USCIS in finding ways to limit the economic and humanitarian impacts that are about to happen in the coming months.

"While our options may be limited, it is important for us to look into all available options for our people and the economy. We will continue to provide updates as we monitor the effects of this announcement closely," said Torres.

Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Velma Palacios said they had predicted the CNMI would reach the numerical limit quicker than expected. "We are still hopeful the [Torres] administration and [Delegate] Sablan would be able to push forward the increase to 18,000. It has not been a month since fiscal 2017."

"We predicted we would be right back to where we started when USCIS announced we reached the fiscal 2016 [cap]. We need immediate relief, as this issue will continue to impact the CNMI'S economy," said Palacios.

She added the issue affects the entire Commonwealth. "All businesses have been affected and continue to be. How are we able to support the ongoing development without a workforce? We all need to work together on this issue [since] it is not only a business community issue but affects us all."

Adverse effects

Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan), the House Federal and Foreign Affairs committee chair, said CNMI businesses have been gravely affected by worker shortage after the delays they faced in processing CW-1 visas early this year. And the CNMI is back to the same issue it faced in the final months of fiscal 2016.

"This is extremely disappointing, especially at a time when CNMI leaders have been prodding the Obama administration and the U.S. Congress about the urgent need to recalculate the cap based on ongoing economic developments. As long as our concerns continue to fall on deaf ears in Washington, we will all feel the pain—employers and employees alike," Demapan said.

U.S. Public Law 110-229 or the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 states in Title VII Sec. 701 (a)(2) that the U.S. Congress intends to minimize "to the greatest extent practicable, potential adverse economic, and fiscal effects of phasing-out the Commonwealth's nonresident contract worker program and to maximize [its] potential for future economic and business growth."

Demapan added the policies, however, contradict Congress' intentions. "What we are seeing now are policy decisions that contradict the intent of Congress. This is also why I believe that USCIS needs to allow the CNMI Department of Labor to participate in the CW process. CNMI DoL, not USCIS, knows the businesses in the Commonwealth and can greatly assist in determining which CW-1 petitions need to be approved."

He said that they continue to encourage businesses to avail of the local workforce. "Nonetheless, I continue to encourage businesses to search for qualified U.S.-eligible workers and if it continues to be difficult for businesses to find such U.S.-eligible workers, we can compile that data to show that the labor pool is simply not within reach."

"With our economy showing promising signs of improvement, we must continue working toward a comprehensive plan to effectively manage the pace of economic development in the Commonwealth."

USCIS policy

According to USCIS' website, the beneficiary of a rejected petition for extension is not allowed to work beyond the previously approved CW-1 visa's validity period. The affected beneficiary, including any CW-2 dependents, must leave the CNMI not longer than 10 days after the CW-1 has expired. They would be allowed to remain in CNMI provided they have other documents that would authorize their stay under U.S. immigration laws.

Extension of stay and new employment are the petitions subject to the CW-1 cap, which does not apply to CW-2 dependents. All CW-1 workers are under the numerical limit for every fiscal year unless the employee has already been counted toward the cap in the same fiscal year, which begins every Oct. 1 and ends every Sept. 30.

USCIS encourages employers that have CW-1 workers to file their petition six months in advance of the start date and do it as early as possible. USCIS, however, will reject petitions filed more than six months in advance.

MARSHALS

From Page 1

for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona ordered the clerk to issue a writ of execution to attorney Richard W. Pierce, the counsel for two plane crash survivors, in order to collect $1.4 million from the bank accounts of HKE.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge/Clerk of Court Heather L. Kennedy informed HKE on Thursday that there are exemptions under the law that may protect some property from being taken if HKE can show that exemptions apply pursuant to federal or Commonwealth law.

"If you believe that you qualify for an exemption or that the writ of execution was issued improperly then you may request a hearing within 14 days of this notice," Kennedy told HKE.

In her writ of execution last week, Manglona ordered the clerk to direct the U.S. Marshals Service to levy execution on all funds in HKE's two accounts at Bank of Saipan and any Bank of Guam account it may hold, up to $1,375,952.71, to satisfy the survivors' judgment.

A writ of execution refers to a court order that allows for the collection of money or property owed by a judgment debtor.

Manglona issued the order following the survivors' request to seize HKE's assets in the two banks after HKE failed to pay the $1.4 million federal court judgment to two plane crash survivors since its entry last April.

Plane crash survivors Tomoyuki Nagata and Dr. Jun Takimoto and his family, through counsel Pierce, recently filed a request for entry of writ of attachment before the court.

Writ of attachment refers to a court order directing a law enforcement or sheriff to "attach" or seize an asset.

U.S. Deputy Marshal John Vega informed the court that he executed the writ of execution on Thursday and seized a total of $595.84 from HKE's two Bank of Saipan accounts.

Vega said no money was seized at Bank of Guam.

Bank of Guam compliance officer Carol T. Perez informed the court on Thursday that HKE does not maintain an account with their bank.

Last April, Manglona ordered HKE to pay $606,723.10 to Nagata and $769,229.61 to Dr. Takimoto and his family to satisfy their settlement agreements.

Pierce said nothing has been paid yet on the $1,375,952.71 judgment.

Pierce disclosed that according to the bankruptcy filing of HKE, the company has two accounts at the Bank of Saipan.

The lawyer said HKE also previously paid funds to the crash survivors through a Bank of Guam check.

Pierce said as the Bank of Saipan accounts and any Bank of Guam account are a debt to HKE, it is requested that the court attached the debts and order them paid over to his clients for satisfaction toward the $1.4 million judgment.

Nagata and Takimoto were among the seven passengers of a Piper Cherokee aircraft that crashed on a farm in Upper Dandan en route to Tinian on Aug. 11, 2006. HKE settled the lawsuits filed by the survivors, including one filed by Nagata and Takimoto and his family.

MVA

From Page 1

tioning air-conditioners and baggage turnstiles—so that passengers of the new flights as well as passengers of existing flights will have a pleasant experience upon entering and exiting the CNMI.

"Honestly, those are things that our colleagues at the CPA are working on, I am concerned about the lack of space everywhere, the check-in counter, to the Customs and Border Protection area, [and more]. I don't know if it's adequate enough to continue to accept new airlines," said Concepcion.

Interim executive director Chris Tenorio said in an exclusive with *Saipan Tribune* that CPA is doing everything in its power to accommodate the rising number of tourist arrivals.

"Right now, we are having so many airlines coming in and we are trying to accommodate everybody coming in. Yes, we have the facilities and we can still accommodate them. We are actually working on expanding the airport in the near future, but for now we are just trying to accommodate these new airlines that are coming in," said Tenorio.

"We are still actually waiting for our master plans to be completed, which would be sometime next year. Once we have that, we will start working on the expansion projects," he added, explaining that the expansion would not specifically be starting next year.

A jet bridge, also known as a jet way, is a movable connector that extends from the airport terminal gate to the aircraft, allowing passengers to board. Currently one jet way is inoperable and two require special attention, making only five jet ways out of six operable, according to Tenorio.

"Right now our Aircraft Operations Area guys are working on the airlines, assisting them with the jet ways. We have jet ways that we are planning to replace, but it's not going to be possible this year. We are still actually going to be getting information. We are working on it right now, trying to get all the documents needed for it," said Tenorio.

Leaking in the gate of the airport has long been an issue, one that has already been addressed by CPA, though not completely.

"Just this week, some areas have already been addressed. We are now working on the other areas, so the leaks are already at a minimum. We addressed the major leaks," said Tenorio.

One airline official who agreed to speak on condition of anonymity told *Saipan Tribune* that they are disappointed with the airport and, although the airport is operational, it is not ideal.

"We are trying to do our very best. Yes, we have issues here at the airport. We are addressing these issues, but this is not an overnight thing. I want the airlines to come and meet with us to discuss what other concerns they have, because we are open to any comments and suggestions," said Tenorio in response.

Tenorio understands that the tourists' first point of contact with Saipan is the airport, saying that CPA will improve as the days go by.

"Lately we've been having improvements. We've had the airports painted and are trying to accommodate everything. Yes, we are having issues with the air-con now, and we are in the process of awarding the company to replace some of the units. We just want to make travelling passengers comfortable, because the airport is the first impression of Saipan, so when they see the airport I want them to feel welcome," he said.

Concepcion remains unfazed about the issue, saying they would still be inviting tourists to the CNMI.

"We are going to continue inviting airlines into the CNMI, especially Japan, which is a big focus of ours because of the big drop of numbers. Our goal is to get additional flights from Japan, in addition to everything that is already flying here," he said.

"These are the three new airlines in the next three months. We are very excited about it and we are working actively in Korea, China, and Hong Kong to promote these new flights and help fill those flights up to build more tourist arrivals here in the CNMI," he added.

T'Way Airlines and Eastar Jet are Korea-based airlines that are offering daily regular scheduled flights from Seoul, Korea, to Saipan, with the latter starting today.

T'way Airlines is expected to start on Dec. 23.

HK Express is a Hong Kong-based, low-cost airline expected to fly three times a week, from Hong Kong to Saipan starting early 2017.

FORUM

From Page 2

cho (independent), Rep. Blas Jonathan "BJ" Attao (independent), Ivan Alafonso Blanco (Republican), Donald Cabrera Barcinas (Republican), and Jose Ilo Itibus (Republican).

Those who did not make it because they were off-island or for other reasons were former representative Heinz Sablan Hofschneider (independent), Rep. Anthony Tenorio Benavente (independent), House minority leader Ramon Angailen Tebuteb (independent), and former representative Stanley Estanislao Tudela McGinnis Torres (independent).

After the forum that started at 5:30pm and finished past 8pm, the public met the candidates at the after-party held at Naked Fish.

At the forum, candidates were asked about topics/categories such as poverty; education; 902 talks; Article 12; Pagan and the military, live-fire plans; economic development; where do they stand on the casino; CW issues; minimum wage; budget and financial integrity; and vision for Garapan as the economic hub of the CNMI.

Attorneys Tiberius Mocanu and Michael Sato, who served as moderators, asked the candidates questions that were submitted confidentially through the MyPros members. Time limits were strictly enforced.

There were six questions plus some follow-up questions. The eight candidates were divided into two blocs. Each bloc of four candidates got three different questions.

Marianas Young Professionals board director Kaitlyn Neises-Mocanu said the event was very positive as they got almost all the Precinct 3 candidates to come.

Neises-Mocanu said one candidate is off-island, one they could not get in touch with, and some had other engagements.

"We got the majority of the candidates to be here. It's very successful. This is the largest political forum that I have been to," she said.

Neises-Mocanu has been on Saipan for six years. She has not been involved in politics until a few years ago.

"This is certainly the biggest turnout that I have seen in any kind of these political events," she said, estimating that at least 100 people showed up.

Neises-Mocanu said the purpose of the forum is to get the public informed about who are they going to be voting for.

"We want everyone to make an informed decision as to who they going to be electing to make laws for the CNMI," she said.

Neises-Mocanu said really important that aside from looking at billboards and seeing the candidates waving on the streets, voters should hear what they've got to say or what they stand for.

She said there is not a lot of opportunity to actually get to know the candidates and what they stand for.

"Otherwise, you'd just be voting maybe as a popularity contest. This is a non-partisan objective way of looking at each candidate," Neises-Mocanu pointed out.

She said they picked up questions from their members that were submitted during their event a few weeks back.

She said the moderators went through the questions, and chose the most popular and most relevant right now.

MyPros chose Precinct 3 because it has the largest amount of candidates and because of hot areas covered—Garapan, Oleai, and part of Tapochau.

MyPros will also hold a senatorial debate among Saipan candidates Sen. Sixto Kaipat Igisomar (Republican) and former denator Ralph Naraja Yumul (independent) will be at the same venue on Wednesday, Oct. 26, from 5:30pm to 9pm.

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Kia Forte LX retail price $17,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.40% APR for 72 monthly payments of $234.53 or $108.25 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $16,886.20.
Kia Soul LX retail price $18,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.40% APR for 72 monthly payments of $247.56 or $114.26 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $17,824.32.

WANTED

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The **Saipan Tribune** is looking for a full-time sports reporter.

QUALIFICATIONS:

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- Can work fast within deadlines and in a stressful environment;
- Must be able to work on holidays, weekends, late nights, and on short notice;
- Fast learner, self-starter, and a team player;
- Computer literate;
- With photography skills;
- Must have reliable means of transportation.

If you have what it takes to be part of a dynamic team, email you résumé and samples of your work to editor@saipantribune.com. You may also drop it off at the **Saipan Tribune** office on the second floor of the JP Center Building on Beach Road, Garapan. On-island hires preferred.

Saipan Tribune, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities, and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW/FHWA-16-IFB-001

ROUTE 10 HAZARD ELIMINATION PROJECT ROTA, PROJECT NO. CM-NH-0010 (002)

Acting Governor Victor B. Hocog and Acting Lt. Governor Francisco M. Borja., through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Route 10 Hazard Elimination Project Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package consisting of Plans, Specifications and Bid Documents will be available on or after **October 24, 2016** at Pacific Quick Print & Post, located in Middle Road, Garapan, Saipan. A non-refundable payment to Pacific Quick Print & Post, is required to defray the cost of printing the package.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, currenlty in effect."

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement Regulations, NMIAC Section 70-30.3-725 and 70-30.3-730 Prohibiting Gratutitues, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **November 10, 2016,** 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **November 15, 2016** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.
The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW/FHWA-16-IFB-001"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 9:30 a.m. local time **November 18, 2016.** Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 9:30 a.m. local time **November 18, 2016**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **November 18, 2016** and must be received no later than **November 28, 2016.** Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 9:30 a.m. local time, **November 29, 2016.** However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 9:30 a.m. local time, on **November 18, 2016.**

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section **§70-30-3-245.** The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Two Hundred Seventy (270) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed according to Table 108-1 of the standard Specification for Construction of Roads and Bridges on Federal Highway Projects, FP-03

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

BIG promotes awareness of substance abuse

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Bridge Investment Group employees attend the Substance Abuse Workshop coordinated by Herbert Sablan, substance abuse treatment service supervisor, of the Community Guidance Center.

Herbert Sablan, substance abuse treatment service supervisor of the Community Guidance Center, recently provided information to Bridge Investment Group, LLC employees on substance abuse and treatment services available on Saipan.

People who are in need of help are often unaware of the support and treatment services offered in the CNMI. Sablan gives BIG employees a closer look at the Community Guidance Center's programs that are beneficial not only to BIG employees but for the communities in the CNMI.

According to Sablan "It is great to be able to work with government and non-government organizations to address substance abuse prevention and treatment efforts in the CNMI. From the community perspective, employers like BIG highlight the importance of their employees and their families, which demonstrate support efforts towards mental health promotion, mental health treatment, substance abuse prevention, and substance abuse treatment. In partnership with the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., Community Guidance Center, and Bridge Investment Group are in full support; perpetuating behavioral health wellness and recovery within the CNMI."

Yvette Sablan, special assistant for Substance Abuse and Rehabilitation, said: "Bridge Investment Group, LLC of San Jose, Tinian, has definitely taken a huge lead as a private sector on genuinely caring for their employees. With the epidemic of methamphetamine situation, it is reassuring to have BIG set precedence, making it their company's responsibility to educate their staff about services that are available on substance abuse and equally important, encouraging their staff to avail to the services(s), while guaranteeing their employment. It is actions such as this that truly makes a difference for our people-and it is my hope that we will soon have a greater response from the work force and the community to start taking a proactive stance on our battle against meth. The government agencies cannot do this alone, we need to collaborate our efforts as one. Together, we can put a dent on the increasing number on substance abuse and impact a positive change."

On behalf of BIG, chief executive Phillip Mendiola-Long emphasizes the need to provide awareness to his employees and to the people of Tinian. These services will help enhance a healthier and more positive lifestyle for individuals whose lives have been affected by the use and abuse, of illegal substances. "When prevention efforts are established and treatment is available, the chances of recovery for our people are much greater." ***(PR)***

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Bldg.#1356 Mednilla Avenue, Capitol Hill,
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone Nos. (670) 664-3196 Fax phone No. (670) 664-3197

EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 29, 2016

THE CNMI DEPARTMENT OF LABOR OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY ISSUES THE FOLLOWING

MORATORIUM NOTICE
on

N.M.I. ADMINISTRATIVE CODE CHAPTER 80 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, SUB-CHAPTER 80-20.1 EMPLOYMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS § 80-20.1-210 (C) (3) Exemptions from Workforce Participation § 80-20.1-215 (b) Particular Construction Project. Exemptions issued prior to this notice remains in effect until their expiration date.

This moratorium notice shall be in effect until such time that the CNMI Secretary of Labor publishes a new notice on this matter.

WAP program is now accepting applicants

The Department of Public Works' Energy Division, Weatherization Assistance Program for low income residents on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota is now accepting applications on a first come, first serve basis.

This program is designed to assist and encourage homeowners to take efficient measures through the retrofitting and replacement of inefficient lightings and home appliances with qualified Energy Efficient – Energy Star® rated lightings and appliances to reduce high energy bills.

Individuals wishing to avail of this program may obtain an application for service at the Energy Division on Capitol Hill building No. 1337 on Saipan. For Tinian and Rota, applicants can pick up applications at the Tinian or Rota Mayor's Office or you may download applications from our website at www.cnmienergy.com.

If you have any questions regarding this program, do not hesitate to contact program manager Christine Babaut or Eugene C. Borja, auditor, at 664-4481; Monday through Friday, except holidays, from 7:30am to 11:30am and from 12:30pm to 4:30pm.

Funding opportunity for this program is made possible through a grant by the U.S. Department of Energy, Weatherization Assistance Program. ***(PR)***

Camacho steps down as MAW exec

After nine years and over 100 wishes granted, Victor Camacho has resigned his position as executive director of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Guam/CNMI.

During his tenure, Camacho turned the organization into one of the most well-respected and solvent nonprofits on island.

Former board chair Eric Tydingco has been named interim executive director and can be reached via email at erictydingco@yahoo.com.

All current programs will continue on as Camacho will assist in making the transition seamless. The board of directors is grateful for Camacho's hard work and dedication to the foundation and wishes him well as he begins his next endeavor.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. Founded in 1980 when a group of caring volunteers helped a young boy fulfill his dream of becoming a police officer, the foundation is one of the world's leading children's charities, with 62 chapters in the United States and its territories. With the help of generous donors and nearly 25,000 volunteers, the Make-A-Wish Foundation grants a wish every 37 minutes and has granted more than 270,000 wishes in the United States since its inception. For more information about the Make-A-Wish Foundation, visit guam.wish.org and discover how you can share the power of a wish. ***(PR)***

Air force training at Warning Area 517

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on Oct. 24-28 from 8am to 8pm. The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear of the areas during the date and times indicated.

W-517 is activated south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. All vessels are advised to remain clear of W-517 south of latitude 12° 40' 00»N. Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank are open for public use. W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises. ***(PR)***

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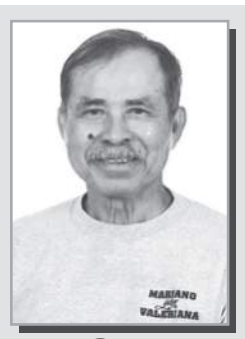
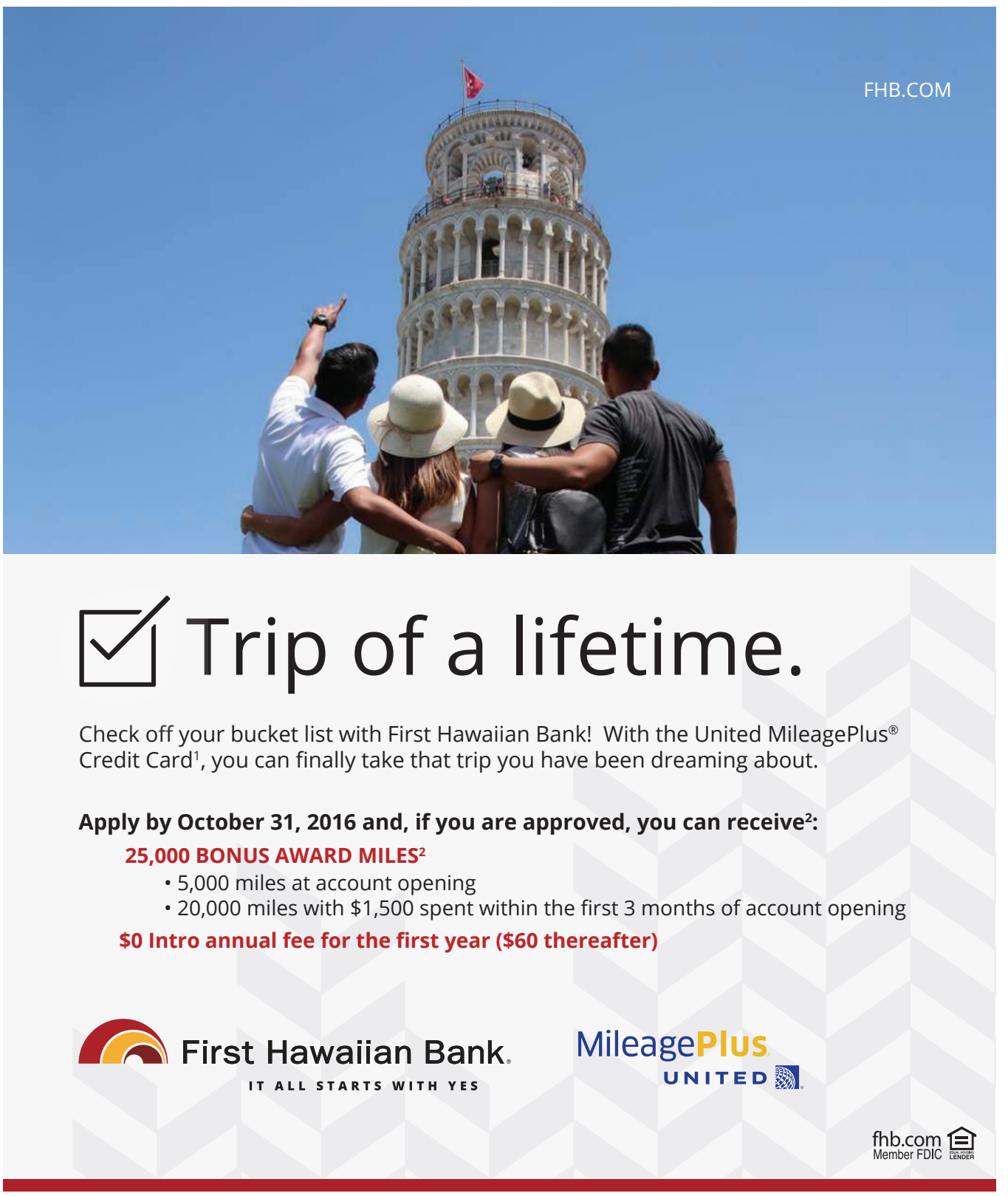


PLEASE VOTE! BOTA!
ANTONIO MUNA CAMACHO
House of Representatives
Precinct 5
NO. 1 on the Ballot
Independent Candidate



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1 Miles accrued, awards, and benefits issued are subject to change and are subject to the rules of the United MileagePlus program, including without limitation the Premier program (the "MileagePlus Program"), which are expressly incorporated herein. Please allow 6-8 weeks after completed qualifying activity for miles to post to your account. United may change the MileagePlus Program including, but not limited to, rules, regulations, travel awards and special offers or terminate the MileagePlus Program at any time and without notice. United and its subsidiaries, affiliates and agents are not responsible for any products or services of other participating companies and partners. Taxes and fees related to award travel are the responsibility of the member. Bonus award miles, award miles and any other miles earned through non-flight activity do not count toward qualification for Premier status unless expressly stated otherwise. The accumulation of mileage or Premier status or any other status does not entitle members to any vested rights with respect to the MileagePlus Program. MileagePlus Program participation may not be permitted in some countries. All calculations made in connection with the MileagePlus Program, including without limitation with respect to the accumulation of mileage and the satisfaction of the qualification requirements for Premier status, will be made by United Airlines and MileagePlus in their discretion and such calculations will be considered final. Information in this communication that relates to the MileagePlus Program does not purport to be complete or comprehensive and may not include all of the information that a member may believe is important, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to all of the information on the united.com website and the MileagePlus Program rules. United and MileagePlus are registered service marks. For complete details about the MileagePlus Program, go to www.united.com.

2 Subject to credit approval. Apply for the United MileagePlus credit card by 10/31/16 and, if approved, receive 5,000 bonus miles at account opening and 20,000 bonus miles if you spend $1,500 in purchases within the first 3 months after your account is opened. The Annual Percentage Rate (APR) for Purchases is a variable rate of 16.49% as of 09/01/16. The intro fixed APR for balance transfers is 2.99% for the first eight billing cycles following the opening of your account for balance transfers made within 30 days of account opening. After that, the variable rate will apply. The fixed Cash Advance APR is 18.00%. The fixed Penalty APR is 18.00% and may be applied if you make a late payment. The Minimum Interest Charge will be no less than $1.00. The Foreign Transaction Fee is 2.5% of the U.S. dollar amount of any Purchase or Cash Advance made in a foreign currency. The ATM Cash Advance Fee is 3% of the transaction amount ($3 min/$50 max) and the Over-the-Counter Cash Advance and Convenience Check Fees are 3% of the transaction amount ($5 min/$50 max). The Balance Transfer Fee is 3% of the transaction amount ($5 min). $0 introductory annual fee for the first year after account opening; thereafter, the annual fee is $60. Additional limitations, terms and conditions apply. See the United MileagePlus Credit Card Agreement for more information.

RESIDENTIAL, GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS
DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its RESIDENTIAL, GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS customers that current billing of accounts are due on or before **Tuesday, October 25, 2016**. Payments not received by close of business on **Oct. 25** will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00PM on that day.

To prevent temporary suspension, customers are hereby advised to kindly pay their bills on or before **Tuesday, October 25, 2016** . Disputed billings must be brought to IT&E's attention in person or in writing by **Tuesday, October 25** . Customers must pay any current amount due, to avoid disconnection.

If you have questions regarding billing or services please call Customer Service at 682-4ITE (4483) or visit our Customer Service or Business Sales Center – Middle Rd., Gulao Rai office.

IT&E Life In Motion

To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:
SHELL Service Stations – up to 4:00pm
Chalan Laulau – up to 5:00pm
Tinian/Rota Office - up to 4:30pm
TSL Plaza – up to 6:00pm
Online payment – up to 9:00pm

PAY BY PHONE: 682-4ITE (4483)

JON PEREZ

Acting governor Victor B. Hocog, center, joins U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and CNMI Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, U.S. District Court for the CNMI Chief Judge Ramona Manglona, and other law enforcement officials in last week's proclamation declaring Oct. 23 to 31 as Red Ribbon Campaign Celebration.

Activities lined up for 2016 Red Ribbon Week

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI officials stepped up their campaign against illegal drugs by aggressively educating the youth of its effects. This was among the activities lined up in this year's 2016 Red Ribbon Campaign Celebration here in the Commonwealth.

The celebration kicked off Thursday with acting governor Victor B. Hocog signing a proclamation declaring Oct. 23 to 31 as National Red Ribbon Week. Present at the Governor's Office conference room were U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and CNMI Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, U.S. District Court for the CNMI Chief Judge Ramona Manglona, and other law enforcement agencies.

A roadside waving and wear red day was also held Friday at the intersection near the Marianas Visitors Authority. This year's theme was "YOLO or You Only Live Once: Be Drug Free" that was coined by Kristopher Oakes and Loagan Brehm, a pair of sixth graders at Claysburg-Kimmel Elementary School in Claysburg, Pennsylvania.

Manglona said education and outreach is part of their program in promoting a drug-free community. "We are reaching out to the community as our service. We addressed the alternative education students at [Marianas High School]. We're also going to visit other elementary, middle, and high schools to promote the YOLO and drug-free spirit," said Manglona.

Limtiaco said their school visits would go beyond October. "This is part of our commitment to the CNMI community. We have visited some schools like last Tuesday we went to Chacha Oceanview Middle School where we spoke to more 150 students."

She said they also met with those under the CNMI alternative education program with Tanapag Middle School part of their schedule along with other elementary, middle, and high schools.

"Our commitment does not end there and we will schedule school visits even after October. We will reach out to other schools and talk to them," said Limtiaco, who added that A.J. Mettao and Robin Sablan are helping them with the educational talks.

Hocog said in one way or another illegal drugs have affected and touched everyone's lives, with some having a family member or friends who were influenced or became drug dependent. He spoke based on experience after his son became a drug dependent.

"This situation I experienced gave me sleepless nights. My heart cries in this situation. It is very difficult as a parent since I am concerned about my own son, who became involved in this kind of activity. I was worried about his livelihood, welfare, and future," said Hocog.

For more information or those who wanted to have their school visited, call Mae Blas at (671) 4794144 or (671) 9893186.

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION FOR CNMI WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

The Antidegradation Policy of the Water Quality Standards of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands states that the protection and maintenance of the quality of the waters of the Commonwealth are an historic and legal right of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands, and that this shall be the public policy of the Commonwealth. Any proposed activity that will impact the waters of the Commonwealth must receive a Water Quality Certification from the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ). In issuing a Water Quality Certification, BECQ must assure that the proposed activity complies with all applicable provisions of the CNMI Water Quality Standards and federal Clean Water Act, will not interfere with the attainment or maintenance of the existing or designated uses of the Commonwealth waters, and that all appropriate and practicable steps have been taken to minimize potential adverse impacts to aquatic life and human health.

Upon receiving an application, BECQ issues a public notification which describes the proposed activity and potential impacts on water quality, aquatic life and human health. A thirty (30) day public comment period will commence from the date of the first publication of the notice.

The Administrator of BECQ may conduct a public hearing to solicit comments on the application if a hearing is requested by the public. BECQ will make a determination for issuing a Water Quality Certification based upon a complete technical review of the application and the public comments received.

BECQ is soliciting comments on the following application for a CNMI Water Quality Certification.

1. APPLICANT:

Liezl R. Balan, Project Manager
Docomo Pacific, Inc.
219 S. Marine Corps Drive Suite 206
Tamuning, Guam 96910

2. APPLICABLE STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

CNMI Commonwealth Environmental Protection Act (Public Law No. 3-23); CNMI Water Quality Standards, Chapter 65-130.

3. LOCATION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY:

The ATISA system would link the four main Mariana Islands in the western Pacific Ocean by submarine cable from Guam to Saipan, with branching units (BU) to Rota and Tinian.

The Saipan landing site is located in Chalan Kanoa village, approximately 384 m (1,260 feet) south of the Sugar Dock boat ramp on the west coast of the island. The cable will be routed offshore through Sugar Dock Channel. The shore landing site is located at the south end of Sugar Dock Beach in unsurveyed public land.

On Tinian two landing sites are being considered. The south Tachognya (also Tachogna and Tachungnya) landing site is located at the southern end of Tachognya Beach on the southwest coast in San Jose village, approximately 1,250 m (4,100 ft) south of the Tinian Harbor mouth. The shore landing site is located in unsurveyed public land. The north Tachognya landing site is located at the north end of Tachognya Beach. The shore landing site is located on public land (Lot 067 T 01).

The Rota landing site is located on Songsong Beach on the southwest coast of Taipingot Peninsula in Songsong village, approximately 67 m (2,200 ft) north of Rota's West Harbor mouth. The cable will be routed offshore along an inactive sewer outfall pipeline that is in disrepair. The shore landing site is located in Lot 006 R 28.

4. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY:

During construction the stern of the cable ship would position itself offshore from the landing site in water greater than 15 m depth. A single 1.5-inch diameter fiber-optic cable would be paid out from the stern of the cable ship along the cable landing route. The cable ship would proceed to lay the cable on the seafloor out to 3 nm from shore, transitioning from double-armored to single-armored cable at around the 200 m (656.2 ft) depth. The ship will then continue on to the next landing site.

Starting from shore and working seaward, the cable (covered by articulated pipe) will be selectively pinned with clamps at approximately 10 m intervals at locations where the hard substrate allows for pinning and no live corals are present. Possibly 236 locations may be pinned; however, since this is subject to suitability of site conditions, fewer locations may actually be pinned.

Where sand-bottom habitat exists on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, and the depth of sand permits burial of the cable, the cable (covered by articulated pipe) will be buried to a depth of approximately 3 feet (1 meter) using a water jet technique. Some material removed to create the trench will be replaced after the cable is laid. This is done simultaneously during the water jetting process. In addition, over time, sediment will naturally fill in the depression caused by the jetting. Where tidal conditions do not allow for jetting, a rubber-tired excavator would be used to bury the cable near shore.

5. IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED ACTION:

Excavation activities associated with the shore trenching and water jet trenching in the sandy areas will cause some temporary suspension of sediments, which will temporarily increase turbidity in the waters near the work site. Marine organisms in the sandy bottom habitats will be disturbed by the water jet and excavator trenching.

6. PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES:

When the cable is being paid out the boat will not be anchored, but powered by its own thrusters to avoid anchoring on live corals.

When installing cable on hard bottom habitats floats will be attached to the cable and it will be floated onto the landing route and onto shore. Offshore, divers will position the cable over the seabed, then cut the floats and gently lay the cable in place after confirming the placement avoids corals. If the cable needs to be repositioned, a stopper will be used to create slack on the cable and allow divers to manipulate the cable into place.

Visual monitoring would be the method of detection during in-water activities to monitor whether there are any water quality issues such as accidental oil leaks in equipment, for instance. Work would immediately cease upon visual detection of any issue, e.g., oil sheen, and would commence only upon successful correction of the problem. Heavy equipment on the beach will have spill response materials on board the vehicle.

Prior to construction in sand bottom habitats on Saipan, Rota and Tinian, floating silt curtains will be deployed to an appropriate water depth in the marine environment where water jetting is proposed. Silt fences will be deployed where excavator trenching is proposed. Marine organisms (e.g., sea cucumbers and starfish) within this zone will be manually relocated outside of the work zone. The silt fences and curtains will be checked daily prior to commencing work.

Water quality will be monitored when the excavator and water jet technique is being carried out in soft bottom habitats.

A post-landing survey will be conducted to inspect the cable route, and ensure all ropes; floats and other materials are removed from the marine environment.

Written comments and inquires should be submitted to BECQ within thirty (30) days of the first date of publication of this notice. Please mail comments to Administrator, Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950

COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 500237, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 1 (670) 233-1857 • Fax: 1 (670) 233-1856
Email: info@cnmicasinocommission.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled a Special Meeting on Tuesday, October 25, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library (Technology Room) in Susupe, Saipan.

The following Agenda will be discussed:

I. PRELIMINARIES:
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Adoption of Agenda

II. REPORTS:
A. Report by the Chairman
B. Report by the Executive Director

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

IV. OLD BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS:
A. Commonwealth Casino Regulations – Proposed Changes
B. Minimum Bankroll Requirements & Formula – Proposed Changes

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION:
A. Report by the Legal Counsel
B. Financial Matters – Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC

VII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Commission may vote to meet in Executive Session. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day or more if necessary.

Juan M. Sablan
Chairman

High Court dismisses NMI's appeal vs ex-PSS' chief

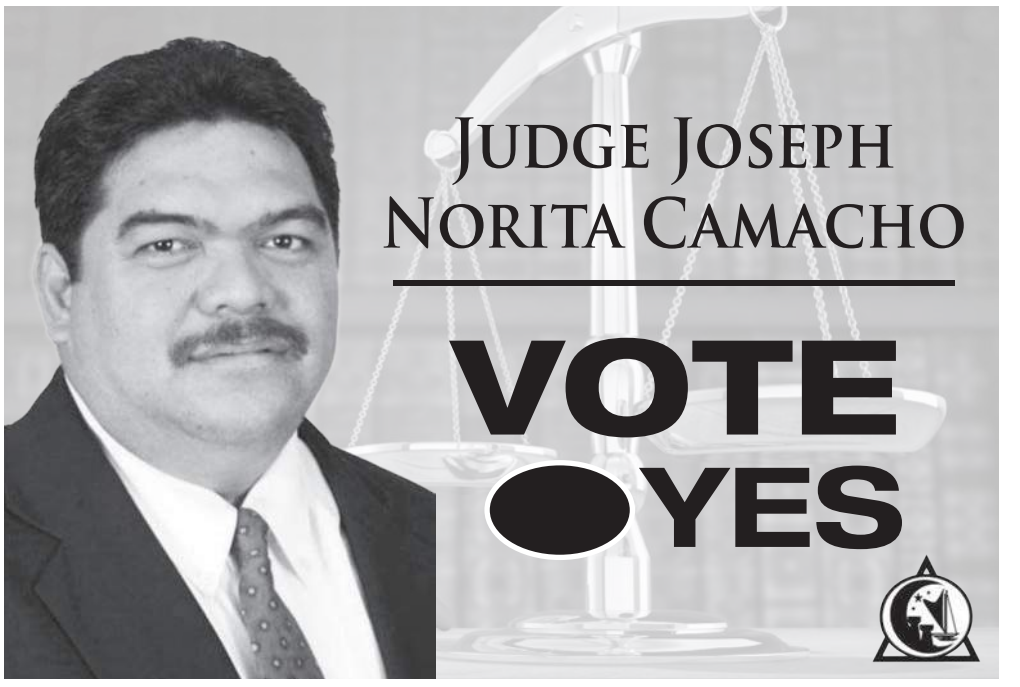
On Oct. 21, 2016, the Supreme Court issued its order in Commonwealth v. Rita Sablan. The High Court dismissed the appeal and sanctioned the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands because the appeal was frivolous.

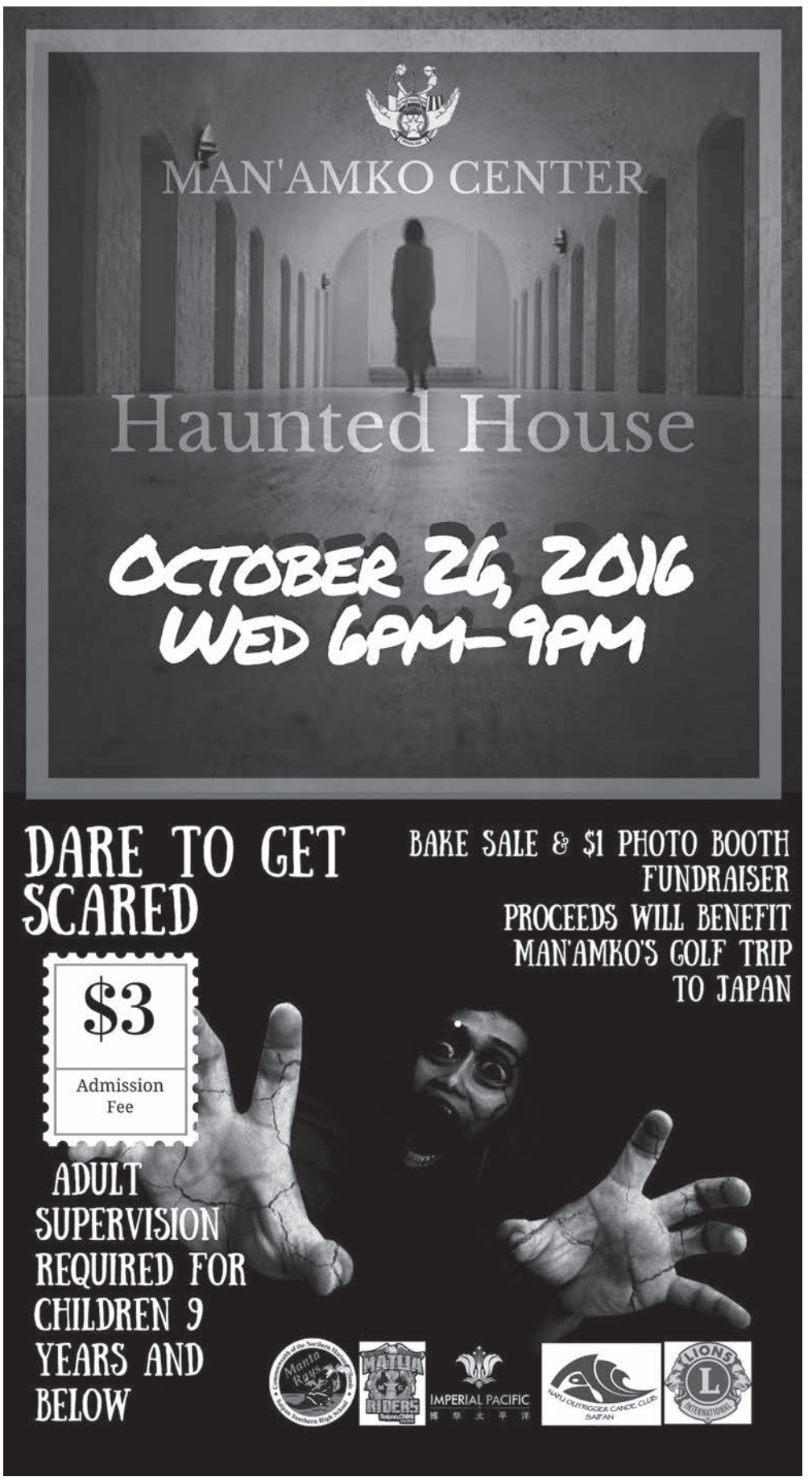
The Commonwealth charged Dr. Rita Sablan with operating a government vehicle with tinting and without the requisite government license plates and markings. Following a bench trial, the trial court acquitted Sablan, concluding the vehicle she operated was not a "government vehicle" because it was leased for 15 days, not the statutorily required 12 months under 9 CMC Section 1103(e).

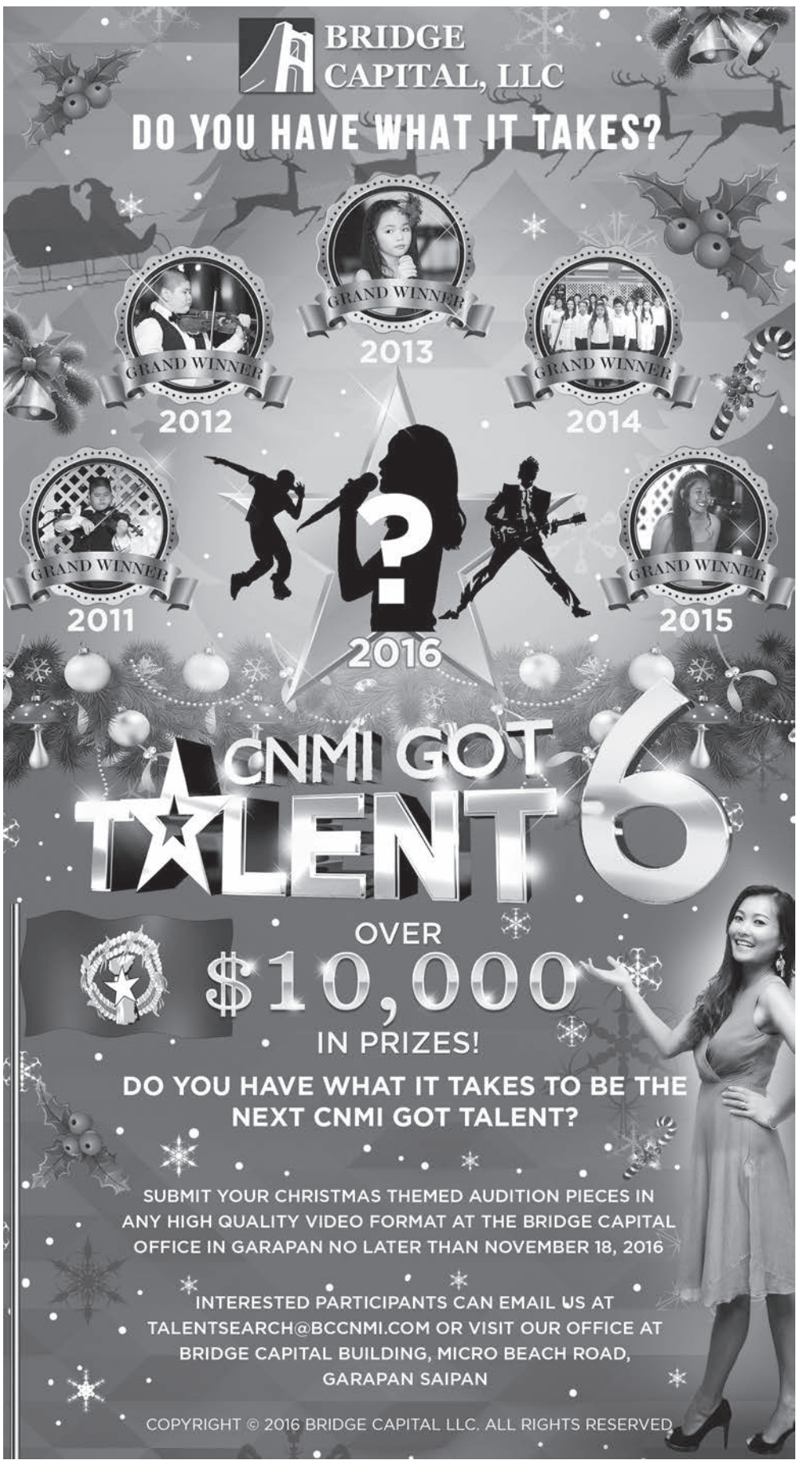
The Commonwealth appealed the judgment of acquittal. Subsequently, Sablan filed a motion seeking dismissal of the appeal and sought sanctions under Supreme Court Rule 38 arguing the appeal was frivolous. Sablan argued as a matter of law a judgment of acquittal is not appealable. In response, the Commonwealth argued the appeal was not frivolous because 6 CMC Section 8101 allows the government to appeal on a point of law without seeking reversal of an acquittal when a statute has been held invalid. It asserted that the trial court invalidated 9 CMC Section 1103(e) by applying a narrower definition of vehicle ownership from 9 CMC Section 1103(e) of the Vehicle Code rather than applying the definition of "leased" from 1 CMC Section 7406(a)(2) when interpreting "government vehicle."

The Supreme Court first reviewed the statutes governing the government's right to appeal and concluded 6 CMC Section 8101 allowed the Commonwealth to appeal a trial court's ruling invalidating a statute from a judgment of acquittal without attacking the acquittal on the merits. Notwithstanding this right, the High Court concluded the appeal was frivolous because the trial court did not invalidate any statute. The Supreme Court concluded the trial court merely engaged in a statutory interpretation to clarity the term of art "owned or leased" under 9 CMC Section 1103(e). The Supreme Court also concluded that the Commonwealth failed to properly explain what it was appealing in its notice of appeal, which resulted in Sablan's motion. Due to this error and for filing a frivolous appeal, the Supreme Court sanctioned the Commonwealth.

The Supreme Court's full opinion is available at http://www.cnmilaw.org/supreme16.html. ***(NMI Judiciary)***



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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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EDITORIAL

By IVAN ELAND
Tribune News Service

Ivan Eland is the director of the Center for Peace and Liberty at the Independent Institute. Readers may send him email at ieland@independent.org.

Should Mosul fall, what next in Islamic State fight?

As a motley group of forces attempts to retake Mosul from the Islamic State, it behooves America's presidential candidates to think about how they'd deal with the terrorist group should the push to liberate Iraq's second-largest city prove successful.

No doubt, losing Mosul would be a significant blow to the Islamic State. The biggest city under its control, it's where, more than two years ago, the group's leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, declared the establishment of a caliphate, or Islamic empire, covering parts of Iraq and Syria. Defeat would erode the group's prestige and its ability to attract new fighters.

However, even if the Islamic State is driven out of Mosul—a likely outcome, though one that won't come quickly or easily—the group will likely live on as a guerrilla movement along the lines of the Taliban, which after losing considerable ground to U.S. forces, is today resurgent in Afghanistan. Radical Islamist movements are rarely completely eliminated, as illustrated by al-Qaida in Yemen, al-Shabab in Somalia and Boko Haram in Nigeria.

So far, in fighting the Islamic State, the U.S. has been training local forces and conducting air strikes. Should the battle to retake Mosul go as planned, America ought to scale back its involvement, not ramp it up, which is what both Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton have been wrongheadedly promising to do.

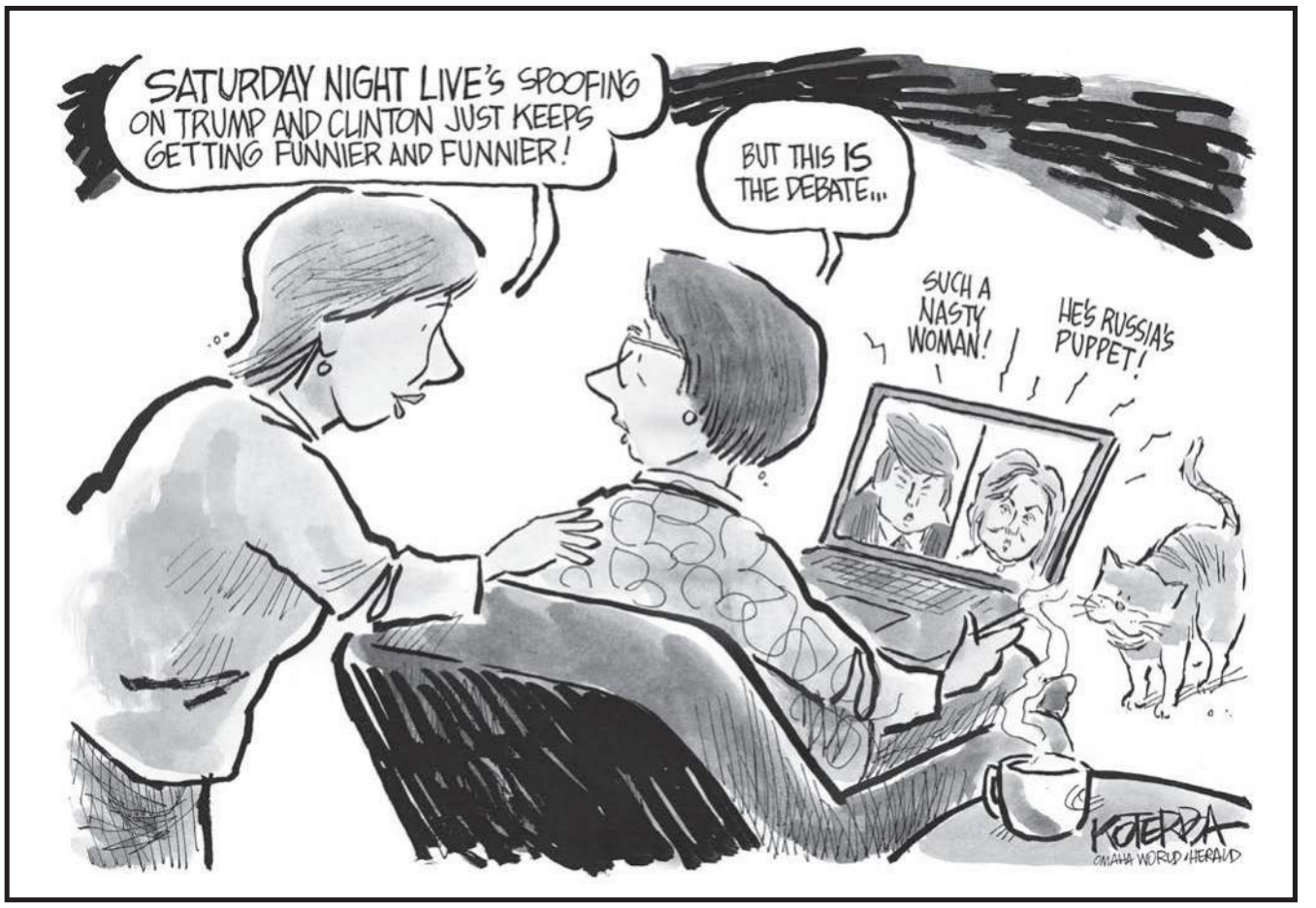
Trump has grandiosely pledged to "crush and destroy" the Islamic State. Clinton has promised the U.S. will intensify its ground game and aerial assaults.

Fighting guerrillas, the candidates ought to keep in mind, is much different than fighting regular armies that identify themselves with uniforms and insignias.

Guerrillas, usually inferior to the forces they are fighting, try to isolate small groups of their opponents for ambushes before blending back into the population. They also have time and patience on their side, as demonstrated by the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong, who for decades fought the French, Japanese, and Americans—as well as their fellow Vietnamese—before finally exhausting them all.

U.S. military and civilian leaders frequently make the mistake of thinking U.S. armed forces, with all their might, will be able to easily vanquish any enemy. But in fact, lo-

See MOSUL on Next Page


SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE'S SPOOFING ON TRUMP AND CLINTON JUST KEEPS GETTING FUNNIER AND FUNNIER!
BUT THIS IS THE DEBATE...
SUCH A NASTY WOMAN!
HE'S RUSSIA'S PUPPET!
KOTERBA
OMAHA WORLD-HERALD

Ugly campaign has forced us to talk about uncomfortable truths

By LARA WEBER
Chicago Tribune

Lara Weber is a member of the Chicago Tribune Editorial Board. Readers may email her at lweber@chicagotribune.com.

In less than three weeks, either Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump will be elected president of the United States—and if it feels like we've already heard enough about sexism and misogyny, get ready: The next four years are going to be filled with bitches, bimbos and nasty women.

And that may be the best thing for women since the 19th Amendment.

This ugly campaign has pushed our country, once again, to talk—with uncomfortable words—about how men treat women. But unlike other moments that have temporarily buoyed this national conversation (Bill Cosby, Roger Ailes ...), this one is guaranteed to continue well past Nov. 8, thanks to the baggage that each candidate carries and regardless of who wins.

If Trump's recent scorched-earth campaign strategy prevails—and polls show that even as he trails Clinton he's not out of the running yet—he will be the first U.S. president to have so openly insulted and disparaged women during a national campaign.

Do we need to revisit the highlights?

■ About Republican primary challenger Carly Fiorina: "Look at that face. Would anybody vote for that?"

■ About Fox News host Megyn Kelly: "She is so average in every way, who the hell wants to woo her!"

■ About Clinton, during Wednesday's debate: "Such a nasty woman."

■ And, of course, the "Access Hollywood" recording where Trump explains the real art of the deal: "Use some Tic Tacs" and "grab them by the p__."

Would deplorable Donald be any different in the White House? No. He'd be the creep-in-chief and the hero of every office lout in America. But imagine also how often a President Trump would give this country new opportunities (the best!) to wrestle with issues of women's rights.

Trump's endless stream of disrespect already has provoked a torrent of fury from women who say he is an outsize (yet weirdly small-handed) embodiment of the sexism that permeates their lives.

Just ask the women in the office, or next door, or at church. Look up #notokay on Twitter. Women have been quietly dealing with Donald Trumps their entire lives—from the leering guy at work who stands too close in the elevator to the pervert who masturbates on the train, women know them all and they're connecting that kind of behavior to things such as the persistent wage gap and the dearth of women in top jobs. Because they are connected.

So thanks, really, to Donald Trump for being so outrageous that women—and the millions of men who also fight for gender equality—couldn't stay quiet any longer. It will only get louder if he is elected. And this will be a good thing, believe me.

If Clinton wins, though, will women be much better off? Assuming Trump concedes and doesn't drag this election into 2017, it's going to get complicated. Yes, she will be the first female president of the United States, but Clinton will govern a deeply fractured nation, including millions of Americans who voted for Trump—and implicitly endorsed, or tolerated, his sexist words and behavior.

If she wins it will be empowering for young girls and women to see a woman in the White House, just as there was hope of a new, post-racial America when Barack Obama became the nation's first African-American president. But I fear that the impact may be more polarizing than unifying.

For eight years, President Obama and his family have weathered nonstop racist badgering, from the baseless birther movement to open comparisons of the first family to apes and monkeys. Will a Clinton presidency be similarly blasted with sexist commentary? Roger Stone, a former Trump campaign adviser, has been planting the nasty seeds against Clinton for years, at one point forming an anti-Hillary Clinton group called Citizens United Not Timid. Will she continue to be dismissed as a "bitch," as many have done, if she moves into the White House, or will she get a chance to govern?

Sadly, too many Americans still struggle with the idea that a woman—or a black person or an Asian or Hispanic or Muslim person—could capably run much of anything, let alone the free world. A President Clinton will be expected to be better than perfect: to govern without a single misstep while looking charming (but not too charming) and being tough (but not too tough) and, naturally, baking cookies for the Oval Office every Tuesday and organizing the staff Christmas party. And that still won't be enough.

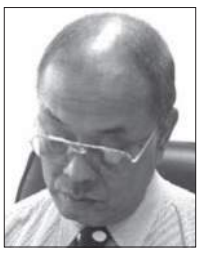
Meanwhile, she'll be expected to just ignore what's sure to be a steady din of blatantly misogynistic rhetoric humming on social media, through the alt-right channels and among the good ol' boys we all know.

Hillary Clinton can stand her ground. She has been playing this "girls get to play but the boys are really in charge" game her entire life—and she hasn't quit. She has stamina.

What's more exciting, and inspiring, is to see how many women are showing they can stand their ground, too.

On healthcare rationing

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

When legislators fail to provide the needed funds for the medical referral program it begs the question: who is sicker, legislators or patients? It would have to be the evil geniuses on the hill suffering frontal lobotomy deformity. Its decision defies common sense!

Interesting the promise to serve people yet withdraw their service where it matters the most. Even more appalling is the gall to seek re-election. My friend coins it: "Electile" Dysfunction.

And so it's healthcare rationing at CHC and more of it when it comes to off-island medical needs. No wonder even a doctor at CHC wants to be referred to Honolulu if something's seriously wrong with him. Why deny funds to the only hospital here, sending it to the ICU of healthcare paralysis?

For da guys and gals and the two clowns in the administration, it's the usual junket to the Philippines for their medical needs, most of us can't afford. Don't you think we also know what's good for us the taxpayers? Or did you forget who's paying for your biweekly-unearned loot?

I've both been sent as a patient and escort. Neither is a fun trip, not as you ask yourself if you'd make it under the knife or afterwards. It's one chaotic experience from A-Z. So I speak with authority when I demand of eggheads to restore medical referral and CHC funds!

The referral program needs about a million dollars but was given $600,000. Would legislators be more mindful if the referee is a next of kin? Would it take this level of urgency to knock some sense into their half-cocked cranial facilities?

What a better place to live in forced hellish hole where healthcare is rationed, agencies borrowing because of the lack of locally generated revenue, increase in family destruction from poker, methamphetamine and heinous crimes. Does it matter to anyone the social scourge in the islands?

Shaky financial posture

There's nothing on the radar that tells us the NMI is on its way to establishing sound economic foundation. Everything is at the mercy of a single economy. What does "homogeneous" economy mean?

Here goes: Boil a whole of chicken without salt, pepper and other condiments. See how it tastes when cooked. It's the same as a homogeneous economy. None of the geniuses on the hill has seen fit to unravel in the interest of fostering a stable economy.

There's a myriad of wasteful spending for weekend vacations for the Cabinet on Rota twice! Yet we can't buy enough gowns for patients at CHC or critical supplies for the ICU! This is doubled down by ill dispositions of such superbly managed agency as CUC by board members who have failed reading the Leidos report on power generation.

If you're still in doubt, why did the Legislature approve various agencies borrowing money on their own? Isn't this an admission that there's a serious shortage of funds? If there's plenty of money so fueled by suspect economic improvements, then it stands to reason that agencies would have benefited from direct legislative appropriations. Did you get that, pal?

The NMI is nearing a point when it would eventually have to float bond annually to cover debts it has failed to pare down with prudence. We would join Guam in its Who's Who list among governors who borrowed the most to pay tax refunds!

Again, the Legislature tries to undo its most powerful authority on appropriations. Is the review process that cumbersome for their nimble minds?

Serving is about people!

Appalling the promise to "serve" the people in the villages. Excuse the term but there's the obvious attitude of apathy and neglect latched to it, e.g., ignoring the promise to serve. I find it disturbing the treatment of real people as though they're without soul or roadside trash that could be disposed or run over at will. Excuse me!

You see, the people you've overlooked are not hypothetical nor are the challenges to their lives. You're looking at real, average families who work the clock to meet their needs. Apparently, soulless representation is the iron cage these days. Nah! Come back to reality check and remember it's all about people or ones you promised to serve but have openly ignored.

Imagine

We seem oblivious to events, basking in our usual grand mañana. Does it matter to you the balance of power in Southeast Asia with the RP fostering relations with once estranged Republic of China?

We focus on the casino industry, ignoring ones in Singapore, Macau, and Manila. But there's also the likelihood that Japan could introduce high rolling gambling in the near term. This isn't the first time I've bumped into this development nearby.

How would the NMI casino industry fare if Japan opens up its very own? With nearly 30 million wealthy folks, would there even be a spill for the islands? What if the escalation of tension between our country and China slams the door shut?

We'd be as good as dead fish in the water! Thus the dire need to think beyond our pug nose, *di ba*? Or is this too difficult for our men of wisdom?

Status discussion

Guam has formed three groups explaining status options such as statehood, free association and independence. It's interesting how this would pan out as public education moves forward.

It's a matter of perception which status offer presents the best alternative. If you say statehood, it may be easily understood given the decades of the long arms of imperialism or benefits the U.S. brought to Guam from military careers, education, healthcare, economy, etc. But could Guam meet the requirements like contributing revenues to the national coffers?

Free association is basically semi-independence. Independence may be the best alternative politically but it also runs up against the permanent implants of imperialism.

LITERARY NOOK

Of Late Two Candidates Were Before Me Placed

By JOEY "PEPE BATON" CONNOLLY
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Of late two candidates were before me placed
sour, unwholesome, impudent, anger they vent
from the Trumposphere media circus were sent
so POTUS voters might know their particular taste
first a bombastic blow hard truly less than third rate
a Senator next she a former US Secretary of State
sorry and now rueful over many emails she has sent
to learn of them millions of taxpayer dollars spent
Oh Blowhard Tweeter your total BS blows my mind away
Oh Madame Secretary you're becoming a nervous wreck
Oh Tinny Trumpet pivots won't bring any votes your way
Oh Senators work hard with Tim Kaine to gain more respect
In the endgame though not difficult to choose the POTUS vote
Former US senator and Sec'y of State, HRC. That's all she wrote

John Keats original sonnet title is: "Of Late Two Dainties Were Before Me Plac'd

Mean Insulting Gaffes Broadcast Every Day

his mean insulting gaffes are broadcast every day
Conservative Republicans, Bushes, all wonder why
national polls show Trump's campaign about to die
this gives readers and viewers much more to say
yet I can feel little solace or consolation from that
or even much better about his pivoting on positions
or some absolutely bewildering bombastic suppositions
for all I really hear is the Donald chewing fictional fat
about his true intents and purposes we know not where
he's coming from, what we'll hear one day to the next
from underneath a popcorn yellow orange thatch of hair
out comes more and more outrageous tweets and text
more mean gaffes about Hillary Clinton are yet to come
we tolerate them the best we can from Donald the dumb

Inspiration from John Keats original sonnet title: Keen, Fitful Gusts Are Whisp'ring Here and There

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

'Withdraw support for Mr. Trump'

In the Northern Marianas, decent people of all political stripes were dismayed by the recent news that Gov. Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres and some other leaders in our government still maintain their support of Donald Trump for President of the United States.

By now we have all seen and heard the video in which Mr. Trump brags about groping women without their consent. He is also accused by multiple women of sexual assault, unwanted touching, or harassment.

Mr. Trump dismisses this vulgarities against women as "locker room banter." And throughout his campaign, he has used sickening, demeaning, and divisive language to attack women, people of color, people with disabilities, immigrants, veterans, Gold Star parents, decorated war heroes, and anyone who disagrees with him.

He wants to wage a trade war with China—our nation's main trading partner and, for the Northern Marianas, a critical tourism market.

He calls upon his supporters to engage in voter intimidation.

He actively seeks to undermine the confidence of the American people in their democratic electoral process.

He lies, constantly.

In any normal election, we expect that political parties and candidates will have differences of opinion about issues, policies, and the direction in which to lead the people they aspire to represent.

But this is no normal election.

It is not enough to weakly protest Mr. Trump's indefensible words and actions—and yet continue to stand with him. Trump has countless times demonstrated that he lacks the character, experience, and temperament to hold office. He is unfit and unqualified to be President.

> *We urge our leaders, especially Gov. Torres, who represents the people of the CNMI to the United States and to the world, to withdraw their endorsement of Mr. Trump, a presidential candidate who threatens the values we hold dear as islanders and American citizens, whether we are Democrats, Republicans or Independents.*

We urge our leaders, especially Gov. Torres, who represents the people of the CNMI to the United States and to the world, to withdraw their endorsement of Mr. Trump, a presidential candidate who threatens the values we hold dear as islanders and American citizens, whether we are Democrats, Republicans, or Independents.

We—all of us, regardless of political affiliation—must take a stand against Mr. Trump. Where he rallies fear, we stand for true leadership. Where he promotes bigotry, we stand for tolerance and respect. And where he stirs hate and violence, we stand for unity across our country.

We stand with Hillary Clinton. And we stand for our democracy. When our leaders and ordinary citizens stand together, we stand not only for ourselves, but also for our future generations.

CNMI Democratic Party

MOSUL

From Page 10

cal forces who know an area's customs, language, politics and economics are generally more effective in battling insurgents, gathering intelligence and winning the trust of citizens. These local forces should be a greater focus of America's terror-fighting investments.

The candidates, both spewing vague-but-inflamed rhetoric on Iraq and Syria, have shown little appreciation for these humbling realities.

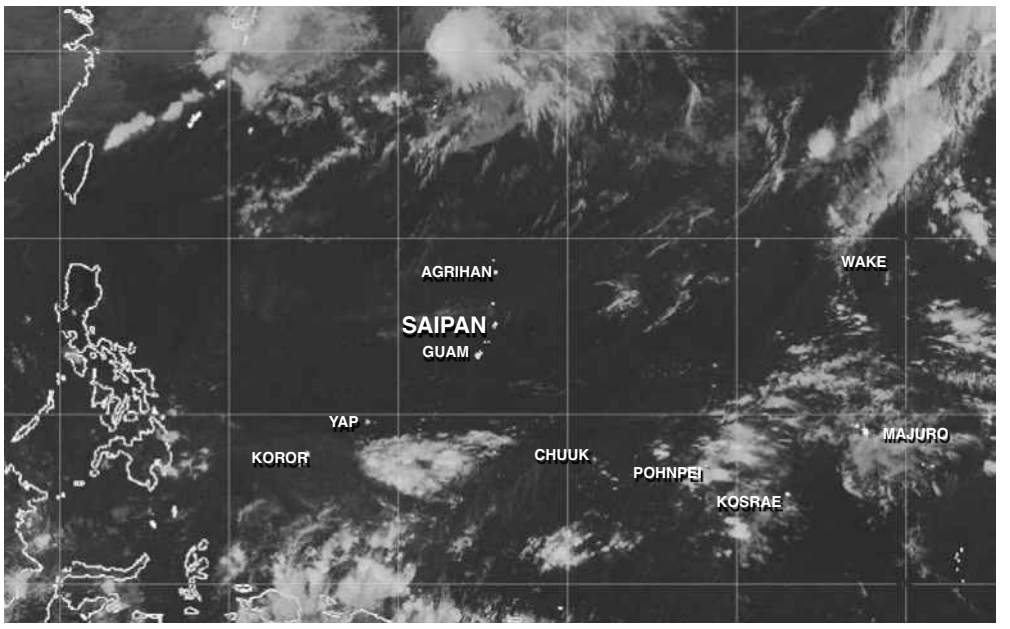
As this heated campaign reaches its climax, it'd be nice to see the nominees temper their boasts and provide more specific plans for dealing with the Islamic State and the Middle East's broader unrest. In doing so, Trump and Clinton shouldn't let election season bombast take America down the wrong road.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 4:30 AM, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2016

WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC BETWEEN EQUATOR AND 25N FROM 130E TO 180.

Refreshed the wind and wave/swell grids, mainly for consistency between combined seas and the wind wave and swell components that produce the combined seas. Zone and marine forecasts are much the same as before, with partly cloudy skies, isolated showers, and a slight increase in winds around Tuesday. Rip current risk remains low in 3-4 foot seas. A surface trough between Kosrae and Pohnpei is producing showers and thunderstorms southwest of Kosrae while another trough to the east brings showers and thunderstorms to the Marshalls.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▼ ▲
Guam and Rota	Partly cloudy	82 / 89 °F
Palau	Morning clouds	79 / 87 °F
Yap	Partly cloudy	79 / 89 °F
Chuuk	Partly sunny	79 / 88 °F
Pohnpei	Morning clouds	76 / 83 °F
Kosrae	Scattered clouds	83 / 87 °F
Majuro	Morning clouds	79 / 85 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▼ ▲
Auckland	High level clouds	51 / 64 °F
Beijing	High level clouds	36 / 54 °F
Hong Kong	Morning clouds	77 / 84 °F
Honolulu	Partly cloudy	73 / 79 °F
London	Rain	49 / 52 °F
Los Angeles	Haze	62 / 74 °F
Manila	Partly sunny	80 / 90 °F
Melbourne	Sunny	46 / 64 °F
Miami	Partly sunny	72 / 79 °F
New York	Morning clouds	50 / 60 °F
Osaka	Sunny	54 / 69 °F
Paris	Cloudy	53 / 60 °F
Pusan	Morning clouds	59 / 68 °F
Rome	Morning clouds	52 / 77 °F
Salem	Cloudy	50 / 57 °F
San Francisco	Cloudy	59 / 67 °F
Seoul	Afternoon clouds	45 / 63 °F
Tokyo	Sunny	50 / 63 °F
Washington, DC	Partly cloudy	49 / 67 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
1:15 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.5 Feet
8:33 AM	LOW TIDE	0.11 Feet
3:50 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.82 Feet
9:54 PM	LOW TIDE	0.94 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:11 AM	5:52 PM
Tuesday	6:11 AM	5:51 PM
Wednesday	6:11 AM	5:51 PM
Thursday	6:12 AM	5:50 PM
Friday	6:12 AM	5:50 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	12:40 AM	1:37 PM
Tuesday	1:33 AM	2:21 PM
Wednesday	2:24 AM	3:03 PM
Thursday	3:13 AM	3:43 PM
Friday	4:01 AM	4:21 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

CNMI's first-time voters weigh in on Nov. 8 polls

With the elections approaching soon, a couple of community members were asked about their concerns and ideas about voting for the first time.

Kenneth Silapan, 21, was asked what he look for in a candidate. He said, "I look for… someone who says they will do something, and actually go through with it. That's pretty much all I look for in one."

When asked about the most important thing a first-time voter should do, Silapan said, "They have to obtain the willpower to step up and obtain the knowledge of all candidates. They must know what they support, their promises, and any dirt held against them. Then, if there is something they [voters] want changed, they have to actually vote on the person more likely to make it happen."

According to Silapan, he does not want candidates who constantly talk about unrelated issues that just derail progress, whether if it pertains to the future or the past. He wishes to be concerned with issues in the present and steps that can be taken to better the future, instead of worrying about problems that could theoretically exist.

He currently has someone he wishes to vote for.

Another first-time voter is 18-year-old Alyssa Velasco. When asked what she looks for in a candidate, Velasco said, "Someone who has a clear plan on how to handle the issues that the CNMI faces and possesses leadership qualities and experience they can bring to the office. Also, someone who is completely genuine and isn't running for any ulterior motives."

When asked what problems she believes should be addressed, Velasco said, "I believe CW workers have definitely earned the right to some form of residency here in the CNMI. A large portion of the workforce here consists of CW workers and they probably have been loyal and hardworking in their respective fields for decades."

Velasco has yet to decide on who she will vote for come Nov. 8. ***(Michael T. Santos)***

Patrick Calvo's request for work release denied

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja Thursday denied convicted child molester Patrick M. Calvo's request for his entry into the Department of Corrections' work release program.

Naraja said the law demands that the court exercise a "policy of judicial restraint" when it comes to question of whether a court should issue a decree that affects issues of prison administration.

"This court sees no justification to depart from this well-reasoned principle of the law," said Naraja in a seven-page order.

The presiding judge noted that even if he were to recommend Calvo's eligibility for work release, such a decree would be in direct contravention of the law under a section of the NMI Administrative Code, which prohibits work release to defendants convicted of a crime of sexual contact.

Therefore, Naraja said, no legal justification exists for the court's recommendation of work release for Calvo; and there is no recognized justice interest in the issuance of a judicial order that contravenes not only the constitutional separation of powers, but state law.

The 54-year-old Calvo, through counsel Bruce Berline, requested that the court recommend his participation in the work release program as it would be helpful to his rehabilitation, to allow him to work at his brother's plant nursery.

Assistant attorney general Barbara Cepeda, counsel for the government, opposed the request. Cepeda also filed letters from seven people, including the victim and her mother and grandmother.

In denying Calvo's request, Naraja said he has read the submitted letters and further noted that the writers' concerns with Calvo's early release are consistent with the court's.

Naraja said it is for this reason that he is compelled to clarify that the one-year suspension of the imprisonment stems from his belief that the full force of the criminal justice system's powers to compel the convicted should be levied against this defendant.

The judge said that is why he has placed Calvo under the watchful eyes of the Office of Adult Probation for seven additional years from his release from DOC, to monitor and to guide his rehabilitation into society.

At the resentencing hearing last month, Naraja imposed a seven-year prison term on Calvo. The original sentence that Naraja handed down in May 2010 was eight years imprisonment.

Naraja resentenced Calvo to eight years in prison for sexual assault in the second degree, eight years in prison for sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree, five years in prison for sexual abuse of a minor in the third degree, and six months in prison for disturbing the peace.

Naraja merged the sentences into a single sentence.

Thanksgiving traditions at Hyatt

Mark your calendars and save the dates for the upcoming holiday season of festivities. From holiday dining experiences in all hotel restaurants to live entertainment from partners in the community, Hyatt Regency Saipan invites everyone to share this holiday season with them.

"Let us be grateful to people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossoms," said Marcel Proust.

Giovanni's will offer a warm and heartfelt Thanksgiving buffet lunch from 11am to 2pm on Nov. 24. With luscious food selections and sweet aromas of spices, the traditional Thanksgiving-inspired dining experiences this holiday season will leave you pleasantly satisfied. The menu includes but is not limited to whole roasted free range turkey, baked oysters ala pobre, Certified Angus Beef flank steak roulade, pineapple student Virginia ham, pizza Bianca, classic pumpkin and apple pies. There will be live stations.

The Thanksgiving lunch buffet includes free-flowing sparkling wine and iced-tea and is priced at $40 per person and Club at the Hyatt members welcome. Reservations are highly recommended.

Kili Café & Terrace will offer the traditional Thanksgiving dining experience from 6pm to 9pm on Nov. 24. Winter greens and the classic carvings—free range turkey, leg of lamb, whole Virginia ham, ocean trout fillet, pumpkin cream roulade, chocolate pecan pie, and all the fixings. The buffet includes free-flowing beers, wines and iced tea and is priced at $48 per person and $35 for Club at the Hyatt members. Reservations highly recommend.

Reservations are highly recommended. For more information, call (670) 234-1234 Ext. 26.

Camp Hyatt at Club Elán

For fun and engaging programs exclusively for young guests between the ages of 4–12 years, Hyatt Regency Saipan invites your child to join in the fun day of cultural and educational activities. This post summer camp is operational everyday from 9am to 3pm and advanced registration is recommended. For more information and registration, contact Club Elán at (670) 234-1234, Ext. 25 or email at spnrs.clubelan@hyatt.com.

For more information, visit www.hyatt.com. ***(Hyatt)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-17-001

Removal of old Engine, Alternator (No. 8) and Turnkey Supply, Installation & Commissioning of 1 x 8 - 10 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities for the Removal of old Engine, Alternator (No. 8) and Turnkey Supply, Installation & Commissioning of 1 x 8 - 10 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System at CUC Power Plant No. 1, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The solicitation seeks responses from qualified ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS (OEM's) from which CUC intends to select one proposer to negotiate the final scope of work and enter into a contract agreement that best fit CUC's power supply requirements.

The Scope of Work and Solicitation Package will be emailed upon request, by CUC Procurement & Supply Office from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except on government observed holidays. Prospective proponents for this RFP must register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at Power Plant Administration Office in Lower Base, Saipan on **October 18, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to Power Plant No. 1 facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-17-001 – Removal of old Engine, Alternator (No. 8) and Turnkey Supply, Installation & Commissioning of 1 x 8 - 10 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **November 9, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Submissions, in PDF, must also be emailed to the addresses as noted in the RFP. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A *Proposal Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 20, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, Purchasing Assistant via email address Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org and Venugopal Prabhakara, Power Generation APCM/PM via email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-17-002

CONSULTANCY SERVICES, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF SIX ENGINE SYSTEMS

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities for the oversight and management of Supply and Installation of Six (6) Engine Systems, 8-10 MW/Each, at CUC Saipan Power Plant 1, Saipan, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The solicitation seeks responses from suitably qualified entities from which CUC intends to select one consultant to negotiate the final scope of work and enter into a contract agreement that best fit CUC's consultancy and construction management requirements.

The Scope of Work and Solicitation Package will be emailed upon request, by CUC Procurement & Supply Office from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except on government observed holidays. Prospective proponents for this RFP must register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at Power Plant Administration Office in Lower Base, Saipan on **October 19, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to Power Plant No. 1 facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-17-002 – Consultancy Services, Supply and Installation of Six Engine Systems"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **November 10, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Submissions, in PDF, must also be emailed to the addresses as noted in the RFP. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business

license in compliance with the Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 21, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, Purchasing Assistant via email address Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org and Venugopal Prabhakara, Power Generation APCM/PM via email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-17-003

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO UPDATE CUC'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AND CUC'S POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities for professional services to update the CUC Rules and Regulations and CUC's Policies and Procedures Manual.

The solicitation seeks responses from qualified entities from which CUC intends to select one consultant to negotiate the final scope of work and enter into a contract agreement that best fit CUC's consultancy requirements.

The scope of work and solicitation package will be emailed upon request, by the CUC Procurement and Supply Office from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except on government observed holidays. Prospective proponents for this RFP must register with the CUC Procurement and Supply Division.

A pre-proposal conference will be conducted at the CUC Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building on **October 20, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. (ChST).** Immediately after the conference, proposers shall familiarize themselves with the current CUC Rules and Regulations and the CUC Policies and Procedures Manual prior to submitting the proposal.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC RFP-17-003 – Professional Services to Update CUC's Rules and Regulations and CUC's Policies and Procedures Manual"* to the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, P. O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **November 10, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST).** Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competitive offerors.

All offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the offeror due to lack of information of understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award of a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offerors are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws. This bid and the ensuring contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI business license in compliance with the licensing laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of the contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on October 24, 2016,** to Manuel B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address at manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant, via email address at marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANUEL B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-17-004

Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Station Service Generator Sets at Power Plants 1 and 4

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced contractors, including their local authorized representatives for the Supply, Installation & Commissioning of one (1) each 750 kW Diesel Generating Set at CUC Power Plant No. 1, Lower Base and one (1) each 200 kW Diesel Generating Set at CUC Power Plant No. 4, Puerto Rico, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Contractor shall provide and pay for all labor, materials, tools, equipment, transportation, temporary construction of every nature, and all other services and facilities necessary to execute, complete and deliver the Diesel Generating Sets and work within the specified time frame.

CUC intends to select one proposer to negotiate the final scope of work and enter into a contract agreement that best fit CUC's station service power supply requirements at Power Plant No. 1 and 4.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at Power Plant Administration Office in Lower Base, Saipan on **October 27, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to Power Plant No. 1 and 4 facilities will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal, though it is not a mandatory requirement.

Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID.

One (1) original and Five (6) hard copies and 1 Compact Disc (CD) of the entire submission in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-17-004 – Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Station Service Generator Sets at Power plants 1 and 4"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on November 18, 2016.** Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A *Proposal Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 31, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address - manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, Purchasing Assistant via email address - Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org and Venugopal Prabhakara, Power Generation APCM/PM via email address - venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Business

AT&T's $85.4B deal for Time Warner: A new bet on synergy

NEW YORK (AP)—AT&T's $85.4 billion purchase of Time Warner represents a new bet on synergy between companies that distribute information and entertainment to consumers and those that produce it.

The acquisition would combine a telecom giant that owns a leading cellphone business, DirecTV and an internet service with the company behind HBO, CNN, and some of the world's most popular entertainment, including "Game of Thrones," the "Harry Potter" franchise and professional basketball. It's the latest big media acquisition by a major cable or phone company—such as Comcast's 2011 purchase of NBC Universal—and aimed at shoring up businesses upended by the internet.

Regulators would have to sign off on the deal, no certain thing. The prospect of another media giant on the horizon has already drawn fire on the campaign trail. Speaking in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, GOP presidential nominee Donald Trump vowed to kill it if elected because it concentrates too much "power in the hands of too few."

Sen. Al Franken, a Minnesota Democrat, said the deal "raises some immediate flags about consolidation in the media market" and said he would press for more information on how the deal will affect consumers.

MEDIA MERGER MANIA

Network-owning companies like AT&T are investing in media to find new revenue sources and ensure they don't get relegated to being just "dumb pipes." In addition to the Comcast-NBC Universal deal, Verizon bought AOL last year and has now proposed a deal for Yahoo to build a digital-ad business.

After its attempt to buy wireless competitor T-Mobile was scrapped in 2011 following opposition from regulators, AT&T doubled down on television by purchasing satellite-TV company DirecTV for $48.5 billion. AT&T is expected to offer a streaming TV package, DirecTV Now, by the end of the year, aimed at people who have dropped their cable subscriptions or never had one.

The venerable phone company has to contend with slowing growth in wireless services, given that most Americans already have smartphones. And it faces new competitors for that business from cable companies. Comcast plans to launch a cellphone service for its customers next year.

AT&T CEO Randall Stephenson, who will run the combined company, said on a conference call that the deal will allow AT&T to offer unique services, particularly on mobile, though he didn't provide details. Jeff Bewkes, the Time Warner CEO who will stay with the company for an undefined transition period, added that more money will help fund production of additional programming and films.

Both men stressed that it will be easier to "innovate" when the companies are joined and don't have to negotiate usage rights at arm's length. (AT&T, of course, will still have to strike such deals with entertainment conglomerates it doesn't own.) The combined company is also likely to lean more heavily on advertisements targeted at individuals based on their interests and personal details.

Buying Time Warner may be "a good defensive move" against Comcast as the cable giant continues stretching into new businesses, New Street Research analyst Jonathan Chaplin said in a Friday note. Comcast also bought movie studio DreamWorks Animation in August.

POTENTIAL DOWNSIDES

Even if the AT&T deal overcomes opposition in Washington, it's possible that regulators might saddle the combined company with so many conditions that the deal no longer makes sense.

"It's not hard to imagine what you can do on paper. They would keep HBO exclusive for only DirecTV subscribers, or only make TNT or TBS available over AT&T Wireless," said analyst Craig Moffett of research firm MoffettNathanson, referring to Time Warner networks. "But as a practical matter, those kinds of strategies are expressly prohibited by the FCC and antitrust law."

Then there is the $85 billion that AT&T is handing over to Time Warner, almost 40 percent more than investors thought the company was worth a week ago.

"Count me as a skeptic that there is real value to be created," Moffett said.

Amy Yong, an analyst at Macquarie Capital, recalled many celebrated media deals of the past have turned into duds—in particular, Time Warner's disastrous acquisition by AOL in 2001. "If you look at history, it's still an unproven" that big deals make sense, she said. AT&T, she noted, was paying "a huge price."

Still, Yong said that AT&T and other phone companies feel they have to act because the threats to their business seem to be coming from every direction. "At the end of the day, these companies are trying to compete with Google and Facebook and Amazon, not just traditional competitors," she said. "You see Google pivoting into wireless."

John Bergmayer of the public-interest group Public Knowledge, which often criticizes media consolidation, warned of harm to consumers from the AT&T deal. He said, for example, AT&T might let wireless customers watch TV and movies from Time Warner without counting it against their data caps, which would make video from other providers less attractive.

MARKET MOVES

Shares of AT&T, as is typical of acquirers in large deals, fell on reports of a deal in the works on Friday, ending the day down 3 percent. But the prospect of more media acquisitions sent several stocks soaring Friday. Netflix and Discovery Communications each jumped more than 3 percent.

Time Warner rose nearly 8 percent on Friday, and is now up 38 percent since the start of the year.

The company has moved aggressively to counter the threat that sliding cable subscriptions poses to its business. Among other things, it launched a streaming version of HBO for cord-cutters and, alongside an investment in internet TV provider Hulu, added its networks to Hulu's live-TV service that's expected next year.

The deal would make Time Warner the target of the two largest media-company acquisitions on record, according to Dealogic. The highest was AOL's $94 billion acquisition of Time Warner at the end of the dot-com boom.

In that last deal, AOL paid entirely in its own stock, which then proceeded to crater. This time, Time Warner is playing it safer. It's getting half of the deal in AT&T stock and half in cash.

Nation

Victory in sight, Clinton still grapples with negative views

WASHINGTON (AP)—Hillary Clinton bested Donald Trump in three debates. She leads in many preference polls of the most competitive states. Barring a significant shift in the next two weeks, she is in a strong position to become the first woman elected U.S. president.

Clinton

But Clinton will end the campaign still struggling to change the minds of millions of voters who don't think well of her, a glaring liability should the Democratic nominee move on to the White House.

While many see her as better prepared to be commander in chief than Trump, she is consistently viewed unfavorably by more than half of the country. Most voters also consider her dishonest.

Clinton's advisers have spent months trying to erase that perception. They've set up small events where she had more intimate conversations with voters. They've tested a seemingly endless stream of messages aimed at assuring the public that the former secretary of state was in the race to do more than fulfill her own political ambitions.

As Clinton starts making her closing argument to voters, her team appears to have come to terms that the mission remains unfulfilled.

"Honest and trustworthy has become our most talked about metric because it's not great," said Jennifer Palmieri, Clinton's communications director. "But we've never thought it's the metric people make a decision on."

If Clinton wins, that theory may be proven true.

Just 36 percent of voters believe Clinton is honest and trustworthy, according to a recent Washington Post/ABC News poll. That's compared with about 60 percent who believe she has the qualifications and temperament to be commander in chief.

The public's perception of Clinton has bounced up and down throughout her time in public life. Her favorability rating fell below 50 percent at times during her years as first lady, but rose to its high water mark then and while she was as secretary of state under President Barack Obama.

Democrats blame some of the current negative personal perceptions of Clinton on the hard-charging tactics she's used to try to discredit Trump, though they believe her sustained assault on Trump's character and temperament has been crucial.

Party operatives also say Trump's personal attacks on Clinton have made it all but impossible for more positive messages to break through. He's called her a "liar," a "nasty woman" and pledged to put her in jail.

"When you're under relentless assault from a reality TV star, it's hard to come out of that with anybody feeling good about anyone," said Bill Burton, a former Obama aide.

Still, Clinton's advisers acknowledge that some of her troubles have been of her own making, including her penchant for privacy.

She's spent nearly the entire campaign struggling to explain why she used a private email server in the basement of her home while she led the State Department. She hid a pneumonia diagnosis this fall from nearly all of her senior staff, then left the public unaware of her condition and whereabouts for 90 minutes after the illness caused her to rush out of a public event in New York.

Trump's lawsuit threat overshadows agenda rollout

GETTYSBURG, Pa. (AP)—Donald Trump is laying out an ambitious agenda for his first 100 days as president but pointedly noting that he will find time to sue the numerous women who have accused him of groping and other unwanted sexual behavior.

"All of these liars will be sued once the election is over," Trump said Saturday during an event near the Civil War battlefield of Gettysburg that was meant to be policy-driven. He added: "I look so forward to doing that."

Asked about Trump's remarks, Hillary Clinton told reporters between rallies in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia that she was done responding to what her Republican opponent is saying as Election Day nears and would instead focus on helping elect other Democrats.

To that end, she attacked Pennsylvania's Republican senator, Pat Toomey, saying in Pittsburgh that he has refused to "stand up" to Trump as she praised his Democratic challenger, Katie McGinty. Noting Trump's comments about Mexican immigrants and his attacks on a Muslim-American military family, she said of Toomey: "If he doesn't have the courage to stand up to Donald Trump after all of this, then can you be sure that he will stand up for you when it counts?"

Toomey spokesman Ted Kwong said Clinton's comments highlight McGinty's lack of independence.

"Today is just further proof that hyper-partisan, ethically challenged Katie McGinty will be a rubber stamp for everything Hillary Clinton wants to do in Washington," he said. "Pat Toomey has been, and will continue to be, an independent leader in the Senate on issues ranging from gun safety to ending Wall Street bailouts."

Clinton rejected Trump's allegation, offered without evidence, that the dozen or so women who have come forward are being prompted by her campaign or the Democratic National Committee. The accusers emerged after the former reality TV star boasted of kissing women and groping their genitals without their consent. On Saturday, an adult film actress said the billionaire kissed her and two other women on the lips "without asking for permission" when they met him after a golf tournament in 2006.

Trump has denied that all the other allegations, while insisting some of the women weren't attractive enough for him to want to pursue. His broadside against the women Saturday came at the start of an otherwise substantive speech that sought to weave the many policy ideas he has put forward into a single, cohesive agenda.

The Republican nominee vowed to lift restrictions on domestic energy production, label China as a currency manipulator and renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement, familiar themes to supporters who have flocked to his rallies this year.

"This is my pledge to you, and if we follow these steps, we will once again have a government of, by and for the people," Trump said, invoking a phrase from President Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-RFP-17-006

MAUI SHAFT WELLS REHABILITATION PROJECT, SAIPAN, CNMI

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to develop the method and perform the construction work to remove the cave in soil material in the Maui 4 Shaft Well tunnel and rehabilitate the existing buildings, platforms, shaft, electrical components, elevator system and all other items listed in the scope of work for the Maui 1 and 4 shaft wells. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC. The duration of the contract is **375 calendar days** from date of award.

This project is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from the above mentioned funding agencies.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan on **November 8, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to the Maui Shaft Wells facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

One (1) original and four (4) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-17-006 –Maui Shaft Wells Rehabilitation Project"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **November 29, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A *Proposal Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 10, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Yvonne Cabrera, CUC Water-Wastewater Jr. Engineer via email address yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-17-008

BULK CHLORINE STORAGE FACILITY

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the construction of a facility for the bulk storage of the CUC's chlorine supply in Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists of a building and site improvements to adequately store and secure chlorine gas cylinders, including all appurtenances and features necessary to comply with applicable standards, regulations and codes. The storage facility includes a chlorine storage area, an operator area to store personal protective equipment and an electrical/mechanical room, emergency showers, eye washing stations, chlorine gas scrubber equipment, ventilation system, fire protection, alarm systems and emergency power.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **270 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Justen Landan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **November 3, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-17-008, Bulk Chlorine Storage Facility Project"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 21, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. *Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.*

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

All responses to this Invitation for should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 7, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Riegel, Water/Wastewater Chief Engineer via email address john.riegel@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, Purchasing Assistant via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, Jr.
Purchasing Officer

Asia

PH president says he won't sever ties with US

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said Friday he did not mean he would cut off ties with the United States when he said in China that he was separating from the U.S., adding it's in his country's best interest to stay with America.

Despite the clarification, the tough-talking president kept up on his tirades against the U.S., saying in a late-night speech in his southern hometown of Davao city that he would never travel to America "in this lifetime."

At an economic forum Thursday in Beijing, where he made a state visit, Duterte declared "my separation from the United States ... both in military and economics also." His pronouncement was met with applause, but Duterte did not explain what he exactly intended to do and when.

Duterte, however, said in an arrival speech in Davao that he was not severing ties with his country's treaty ally that is home to a large number of Filipino expatriates.

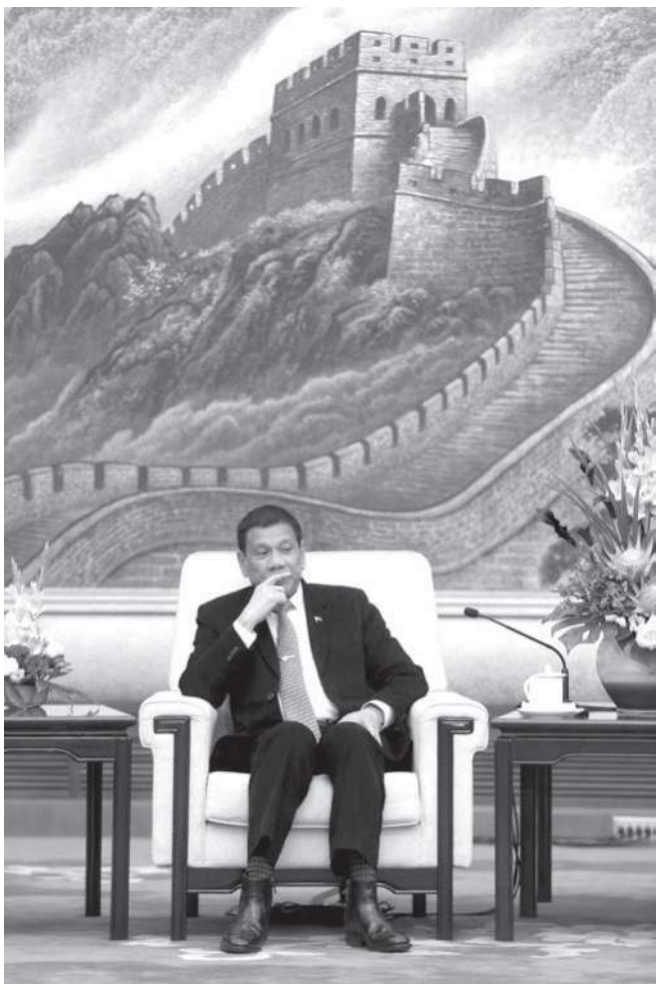
"When you say severance of ties, you cut the diplomatic relations. I cannot do that. Why? It's to the best interest of my country that we maintain that relationship," Duterte said, adding that Filipinos were not ready to embrace such an option.

What he meant by his remarks in China, Duterte said, was ending a Philippine foreign policy that closely leaned toward the U.S.

Ahead of his China visit, Duterte made a series of pronouncements to curb Philippine security engagements with the U.S., including the removal of American counter-terrorism forces in the country's south and his opposition to planned joint patrols with the U.S. Navy in the South China Sea. He also wanted to stop annual joint combat exercises the Philippines hosted alongside the U.S. military that China opposes.

Duterte has said he did not want to embroil the Philippines in an unwinnable war with China, which could instead be tapped as a major trading partner and source of development funds.

U.S. officials said they have not received any formal Philippine notice of Duterte's pronouncements, adding the alliance benefits both countries and should continue to blossom.



AP

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte attends a meeting with Zhang Dejiang, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China, at the Great Hall of the People at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing Thursday, Oct. 20, 2016.

However, White House spokesman Josh Earnest said Friday there had been "too many troubling public statements" by Duterte in recent months leading to uncertainty about his intent. He said that the top U.S. diplomat for East Asia would discuss that uncertainty when he travels to the Philippines this weekend.

U.S.-Philippine ties also got attention on the U.S. presidential campaign trail Friday. Republican candidate Donald Trump told a rally in North Carolina that the Philippine shift toward closer relations with China after decades of a pro-U.S. foreign policy showed that "America has grown weak."

He said that the Philippines is a "very important strategic ally" and China and Russia "are probably going to take it."

Duterte's reaching out to China, which has been locked in longstanding territorial disputes with the Philippines in the South China Sea, and his severe criticisms of the U.S. has come under fire at home.

Former Philippine Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario, who brought the triumphant arbitration case against China over the disputes, said Duterte's shift from Washington to Beijing should be regarded "a national tragedy."

"The declared shift in foreign policy, casting aside a long-time reliable ally to hastily embrace an aggressive neighbor that vehemently rejects international law, is both unwise and incomprehensible," del Rosario said in a statement.

"What is unfolding before us must be considered a national tragedy, which does not need to happen," he said.

Officials: Taliban brief Pakistan about talks with Kabul

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Three senior Taliban members traveled to Pakistan this week and held a series of meetings with Pakistani officials in Islamabad, mainly to brief them about the recent talks held in Qatar between the Taliban and Kabul, a senior Taliban official, an Afghan diplomat and a Pakistani official said Saturday.

The Afghan ambassador to Pakistan, Hazrat Omar Zakhilwal, said he was aware of the meetings but refused to offer details. "We know about these recent meetings but we don't know what was discussed between the Taliban and Pakistani officials," he said.

According to a senior Taliban official, the Taliban who were sent to Pakistan were Mullah Salam Hanifi and Mullah Jan Mohammed, both former ministers in the Taliban government, and Maulvi Shahabuddin Dilawar, a former ambassador to Saudi Arabia and Pakistan.

A senior Pakistani security official confirmed the latest meetings between the Taliban and Pakistani authorities, saying Islamabad is playing its role to ensure peace in neighboring Afghanistan. Pakistan has repeatedly said it will support any effort aimed at bring peace in Afghanistan.

"We will keep making efforts to facilitate talks between Kabul and the Taliban, as we did in July 2015, but the world knows who scuttled the peace process at the time and we do not want to discuss those bitter things," said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity as he was not authorized to speak to media on the record on the issue.

Pakistan arranged the first ever face-to-face talks between Kabul and the Taliban in 2015, but the peace process broke down after the Afghan government announced the death years earlier of the Taliban's one-eyed founder and leader Mullah Mohammed Omar.

In the time since, a leadership struggle within the Taliban's ranks broke into the open and Omar's successor was killed in a U.S. drone strike in Pakistan. The latest development came after Taliban and Afghan government officials held new secret talks in Qatar aimed at restarting peace negotiations to end the country's long war.

Park in Indian capital shut after suspected bird flu deaths

NEW DELHI (AP)—City authorities have closed a sprawling park in the heart of New Delhi after eight birds died of suspected bird flu, days after the city zoo was closed to the public after nine birds died there.

New Delhi's Development Minister Gopal Rai said Friday that eight bird deaths were reported to city authorities on Thursday. These included two more bird deaths in the Delhi Zoo and two dead birds found in the Hauz Khas Deer Park.

City officials said three dead crows were also found in a residential neighborhood near the zoo. Autopsies were planned on all the dead birds.

The zoo was closed to the public Tuesday after autopsies confirmed at least three birds had died from H5N1 avian influenza.

Rai said autopsy results of the birds that died Thursday were not known yet but the government was taking the precaution of closing the park.

H5N1 poses no apparent threat to humans, but highly pathogenic strains can be deadly to domestic poultry and, rarely, wild birds.

Delhi's Hauz Khas Deer Park is home to hundreds of deer, peacocks and other birds. Described as one of the few "green lungs" of the highly polluted capital, the park is popular with joggers and walkers.

At this time of the year, bird sanctuaries, wildlife parks and water bodies around northern India are crowded with migratory birds flying south for the winter.

Rai said vacations had been canceled for all employees of the city's animal husbandry department in case more dead birds are found.

Animal health officials visited the capital's main poultry markets and took samples from different batches of chickens brought for sale.

"We are closely monitoring bird sanctuaries, poultry farms and chicken wholesale markets," Rai said.

Meanwhile, 15 storks have died over the past three days in a zoo in the central Indian city of Gwalior. Zoo official Pradeep Srivastava said zoo authorities were waiting for the autopsy reports on the painted storks to determine if avian influenza was present before deciding whether or not to shut the zoo.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Thais honor late king with special version of royal anthem

BANGKOK (AP)—A massive crowd gathered in central Bangkok on Saturday to sing a special version of Thailand's royal anthem in honor of King Bhumibol Adulyadej, who died this month. A large field in front of the ornate Grand Palace complex was packed with black-clad mourners, as were all the approach roads. Police eventually closed the roads to traffic. The king's body is lying in one of the palaces in the complex while royal funeral ceremonies are going on. No date has been set for cremation, which will likely take place after a year. Led by the Siam Philharmonic Orchestra and a 100-strong choir, the crowd sang an emotional version of "San Sern Pra Baramee," or "Salute to the Monarch." Another version was recorded Saturday night with the crowd holding candles.

Filipino protesters want police in brutal dispersal punished

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Hundreds of Filipino activists have burned a mock U.S. flag and are asking President Rodrigo Duterte to take punitive action against police officers who rammed a van on some of them in a brutal dispersal at the American Embassy. Protest leader Piya Malayao says she and other left-wing activists marched 3 kilometers (1.8 mile) to the presidential palace in Manila on Friday to condemn the violent police action and seek justice for those injured, including herself. Malayao, who was hit by the van in Wednesday's rally, walked with a crutch, her right leg bandaged. Police officials have removed nine officers from their posts, including one who rammed the police van into the protesters. Police say the protesters had no rally permit and attacked officers.

Indian bank authorities say 3.2M debit cards hacked

NEW DELHI (AP)—Indian banks scrambled Friday to contain the damage after finding that more than 3.2 million debit cards may have been hacked. Several banks, including the government-run State Bank of India, advised customers to change their personal identification numbers. The banks have recalled thousands of debit cards and blocked others that they fear have been hacked. The breach is thought to have been caused by malware on an ATM network. Finance Minister Arun Jaitely said Friday the government was investigating how the security breach occurred. The National Payments Corporation of India that controls all retail payments systems in India said banks had received complaints from customers that their cards had been used fraudulently in China and the United States. The NCPI has alerted banks that 3.2 million cards were affected.

World

Kremlin: Demands for Assad's departure 'thoughtless'

MOSCOW (AP)—The entire territory of Syria must be "liberated," Russian President Vladimir Putin's spokesman said in remarks televised Saturday, dismissing demands for Syrian President Bashar Assad's departure as "thoughtless."

The Russian statement came as intense clashes were reported in northern Syria between Turkish troops and Turkey-backed opposition fighters with Kurdish-led forces. The Syrian army command condemned the fresh offensive by Turkish troops inside Syria, describing it as "an occupation that will be dealt with by all available means."

The Turkish military intervened in the Syrian war in August this year under orders from Ankara to clear the border area of Islamic State fighters and U.S.-backed Syrian Kurdish forces linked to Turkey's own outlawed Kurdish insurgency. The Turkish government considers both to be terrorist groups.

In the northern city of Aleppo, government forces shelled eastern rebel-held neighborhoods Saturday night marking an apparent end to a lull announced by Russia.

Russia's Dmitry Peskov said Assad needs to stay in power to prevent the country from falling into the hands of jihadis.

"There are just two options: Assad sitting in Damascus or the Nusra sitting in Damascus," Peskov said in a reference to the Nusra Front, al-Qaida's branch in Syria that renamed itself Fatah al-Sham Front earlier this year. "And Assad must sit in Damascus to ensure a political settlement."

Peskov's statement comes as the break in the fighting Russia has declared in the besieged city of Aleppo entered its third day before seemingly collapsing Saturday night. He said Russia's decision to extend the break, which was initially declared for just one day Thursday, wasn't a concession to Western pressure.

The U.N. greeted the lull intended to allow the evacuation of wounded civilians and fighters from the rebel-held eastern neighborhoods of Aleppo that had been devastated by airstrikes. But the rebels rejected the offer to evacuate and no evacuations were seen along the corridors created by the Syrian government.

A U.N. official told The Associated Press that Syrian opposition fighters were blocking the evacuations because the Syrian government and Russia were not holding up their end of the deal and were impeding deliveries of medical and humanitarian supplies into Aleppo.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the truce collapsed while the Aleppo Media Center, an activist collective, reported artillery shelling on different neighborhoods and an attempt by government forces to advance south of the city. They had no word on casualties.

Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said the West was turning a blind eye to the al-Qaida militants blocking humanitarian aid deliveries to Aleppo and trying to shift the blame onto Moscow.

Carter in Irbil to get closer assessment of Mosul fight

IRBIL, Iraq (AP)—U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter arrived Sunday in Irbil to get a closer look at the fight against Islamic State militants in northern Iraq and likely expand his discussions about the role of Turkish troops in the region.

Carter is expected to meet with Kurdish leader Masoud Barzani, as well as military commanders who are not far from the battle to retake the northern city of Mosul from IS.

Carter spent the day Saturday in Baghdad getting updates from his top military leadership and meeting with Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi. He said the U.S. is prepared to provide additional support for the fight if requested by Iraq and U.S. commanders.

Iraqi Kurdish forces, known as peshmerga, have been advancing toward Mosul from the north, moving in long columns of armored vehicles. More than 100 U.S. special operations forces are embedded with the Kurds and Iraqi military commandos.

Mosul, however, is a Sunni majority town, and many worry about the involvement of government-sanctioned Shiite fighters. But they are also suspicious of the Kurds, who have ambitions to expand their self-rule area into parts of Ninevah province, where Mosul is located - although not to the city itself.

U.S. military officials say the Peshmerga will stop their military advance about 20 miles (30 kilometers) outside of Mosul and hold that territory to ensure IS insurgents don't regroup. The Shiite militias have said they will not enter the city itself.

Carter fueled debate in Iraq on Friday when he met with Turkish leaders in Ankara and suggested Turkey should play a role in the Mosul battle. Abadi on Saturday balked at that call, saying his country's own forces will oust Islamic State militants from the city.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS JUDICIARY

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-JUDICIARY-01

SUBMISSION DATE: NOVEMBER 9, 2016 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

PURCHASE OF A CLASS "D" VEHICLE (4 DOOR SEDAN) FOR THE CNMI JUDICIARY, JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS AND INVITATION TO BID MAY BE OBTAINED AND SUBMITTED AT THE CASHIER WINDOW, DOOR#5, LOCATED AT THE GUMA HUSTISIA/IMWAL AWEEWE / HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSUPE, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS, BEGINNING OCTOBER 24, 2016, AT 8:00 A.M.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES AND KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WIAVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ HON. ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
CHIEF JUSTICE

/S/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS JUDICIARY

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-JUDICIARY-02

SUBMISSION DATE: NOVEMBER 9, 2016 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

PURCHASE OF A CLASS "I" VEHICLE (New/Used 4X4 5 Door Utility Vehicle) FOR THE CNMI Judiciary, Drug Court

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS, INVITATION TO BID MAY BE OBTAINED AND SUBMITTED AT THE CASHIER WINDOW, DOOR #5, LOCATED AT THE GUMA HUSTISIA / IMWAL AWEEWE / HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSUPE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS, BEGINNING OCTOBER 24, 2016, AT 8:00 A.M.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ HON. ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
CHIEF JUSTICE

/S/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

Commonwealth Development Authority
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 | Fax: (670) 235-7147
www.developcnmi.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
2017-CDA-01-ITB

CLOSING DATE: Thursday, November 10, 2016 TIME: 10:00a.m.

"JANITORIAL AND LAWN CARE SERVICE FOR CDA"

Copies of the Scope of Work may be obtained at the Commonwealth Development Authority office, 2nd Floor CDA Bldg. in San Jose, Saipan during regular working hours or by facsimile request to 235-7147.

The Provisions of the CNMI Procurement Regulations, NMIC Section 70-30.3-725 and 70-30.3-730 prohibiting gratuities, kickbacks and contingent fees shall apply with this and all other procurement solicitations.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ MANUEL A. SABLAN
Executive Director

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement and Supply

CNMI SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No. 670-664-4750
Website: www.cnmischolarship.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Scholarship Board of Directors is hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular board meeting on **Friday, October 28, 2016 at 12:30 pm** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the CNMI Scholarship Office Conference Room.

AGENDA

I. **Meeting Call to Order**
II. **Determination of Quorum**
III. **Review and Adoption of Agenda**
IV. **Old Business**
  a. Review and Adoption of Minutes
  b. Appeals
  c. Bylaws
  d. Proposed Regulations
  e. AY 2016/2017 Memorandum of Agreement
V. **New Business**
  a. Senate Bill 19-103 SD1
  b. Senate Bill 19-109
  c. Priority Field of Study
  d. Incentives Awards
  e. Work Service Obligations
VI. **CSO Director Updates**
VII. **Announcements & Next Meeting Date**
VIII. **Adjournment of Meeting**

/s/ Geralyn C. Dela Cruz
Chairwoman

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority, hereby gives notice that a Regular Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 27, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the MVA Conference Room, San Jose Professional Building Saipan, MP 96950.

MEETING AGENDA

1) **Preliminary Matters**
  1. Call to Order
  2. Roll Call
  3. Adoption of Agenda
  4. Adoption of Minutes
    a. Regular Board Meeting – September 19, 2016
2) **Public Comments**
3) **Committee Reports**
  1. Finance
4) **New Business**
  1. Oath of Office
  2. Budget Approval for Fiscal Year 2017 Budget
  3. Contract Renewal – Happy Children in Paradise Promotion (Saipanda Backpacks)
  4. Funding Request for Printing of CNMI Customs Declaration Form
  5. MVA Procurement Policies and Procedures
    a. Purchase Regulation for Destination Enhancement
    b. Other Recommendations
  6. General Membership Meeting
5) **Old Business**
  1. Travel Per Diem Policy
  2. Purchase of Vehicles
  3. Purchase of New Riding Mower
6) **Miscellaneous/Announcements**
7) **Executive Session**
8) **Adjournment**

/s/ **Marian Aldan-Pierce**
Chair, MVA Board of Directors

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK • Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Telephone: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act (1 CMC §9901 et seq), the Personnel Committee of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Board of Directors hereby informs the general public that the Committee will hold a meeting on **Thursday, October 27, 2016, at 9:00 a.m.** The meeting will be held at the CUC Conference Room, Room 17, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building. The following agenda will be considered and public attendance is welcome.

AGENDA*

I. **Preliminary Matters**
  A. Call to Order
  B. Roll Call
  C. Adoption of Agenda

II. **Public Comments****

III. **Executive Session*****
(Discuss and confer with the Legal Counsel on Personnel Matters)

IV. **Adjournment**

* Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Agenda may be modified during the meeting.
** Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to three minutes. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments.
*** Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board of Directors may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

Focus

Attacks on the Internet keep getting bigger and nastier

This photo shows Dyn, a New Hampshire internet service company, in the old mill section of the city, Friday Oct. 21, 2016 in Manchester, N.H. C AP

By BREE FOWLER
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Could millions of connected cameras, thermostats and kids' toys bring the internet to its knees? It's beginning to look that way.

On Friday, epic cyberattacks crippled a major internet firm, repeatedly disrupting the availability of popular websites across the United States. The hacker group claiming responsibility says that the day's antics were just a dry run and that it has its sights set on a much bigger target. And the attackers now have a secret weapon in the increasing array of internet-enabled household devices they can subvert and use to wreak havoc.

MEET THE FIRE HOSE

Manchester, New Hampshire-based Dyn Inc. said its server infrastructure was hit by distributed denial-of-service, or DDoS, attacks. These work by overwhelming targeted machines with junk data traffic—sort of like knocking someone over by blasting them with a fire hose. The attack temporarily blocked some access to popular websites from across America and Europe such as Twitter, Netflix and PayPal.

Jason Read, founder of the internet performance monitoring firm CloudHarmony, owned by Gartner Inc., said his company tracked a half-hour-long disruption early Friday affecting access to many sites from the East Coast. A second attack later in the day spread disruption to the West Coast as well as some users in Europe.

Members of a shadowy hacker group that calls itself New World Hackers claimed responsibility for the attack via Twitter, though that claim could not be verified. They said they organized networks of connected devices to create a massive botnet that threw a monstrous 1.2 trillion bits of data every second at Dyn's servers. Dyn officials wouldn't confirm the figure during a conference call later Friday with reporters.

MAKE THAT, MANY FIRE HOSES

DDoS attacks have been growing in frequency and size in recent months. But if the hackers' claims are true, Friday's attacks take DDoS to a new level. According to a report from the cybersecurity firm Verisign, the largest DDoS attack perpetrated during the second quarter of this year peaked at just 256 billion bits per second.

A huge September attack that shut down of security journalist Brian Krebs' website clocked in at 620 billion bits per second. Research from the cybersecurity firm Flashpoint said Friday that the same kind of malware was used in the attacks against both Krebs and Dyn.

Lance Cottrell, chief scientist for the cybersecurity firm Ntrepid, said while DDoS attacks have been used for years, they've become very popular in recent months, thanks to the proliferation of "internet of things" devices ranging from connected thermostats to security cameras and smart TVs. Many of those devices feature little in the way of security, making them easy targets for hackers.

The power of this kind of cyberattack is limited by the number of devices an attacker can connect to. Just a few years ago, most attackers were limited to infecting and recruiting "zombie" home PCs. But the popularity of new internet-connected gadgets has vastly increased the pool of potential devices they can weaponize. The average North American home contains 13 internet-connected devices , according to the research firm IHS Markit.

Since the attacks usually don't harm the consumer electronics companies that build the devices, or the consumers that unwittingly use them, companies have little incentive to boost security, Cottrell said.

WHAT'S BEHIND THE ATTACKS

Like with other online attacks, the motivation behind DDoS attacks is usually mischief or money. Attackers have shut down websites in the past to make political statements. DDoS attacks have also been used in extortion attempts, something that's been made easier by the advent of Bitcoin.

For its part, a member of New World Hackers who identified themselves as "Prophet" told an AP reporter via Twitter direct message exchange that collective isn't motivated by money and doesn't have anything personal against Dyn, Twitter or any of the other sites affected by the attacks. Instead, the hacker said, the attacks were merely a test, and claimed that the next target will be the Russian government for committing alleged cyberattacks against the U.S. earlier this year.

"Twitter was kind of the main target. It showed people who doubted us what we were capable of doing, plus we got the chance to see our capability," said "Prophet." The claims couldn't be verified.

The collective has in the past claimed responsibility for similar attacks against sites including ESPNFantasySports.com in September and the BBC on Dec. 31. The attack on the BBC marshalled half the computing power of Friday's attacks.

A SHIFTING GLOBAL ASSAULT

Dyn said it first became aware of an attack around 7:00 a.m. local time, focused on data centers on the East Coast of the U.S. Services were restored about two hours later. But then attackers shifted to offshore data centers, and the latest wave of problems continued until Friday evening Eastern time.

"Prophet" told the AP that his group actually had stopped its attacks by Friday afternoon, but that others, including members of the hacker collective known as Anonymous, had picked up where they left off. Anonymous didn't respond to a request for comment via Twitter.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security is monitoring the situation, White House spokesman Josh Earnest told reporters Friday. He said he had no information about who may be behind the disruption.

Cottrell noted that there are several firms that offer protection against DDoS attacks, by giving companies a way to divert the bad traffic and remain online in case of an attack. But monthly subscription fees for these services are generally equal to a typical DDoS extortion payment, giving companies little incentive to pay for them.

Meanwhile not much is required in the way of resources or skill to mount a botnet attack, he said, adding that would-be attackers can rent botnets for as little as $100. Cottrell said the long-term solution lies in improving the security of all internet-connected devices.

Health & Fitness

Raising a vegan baby: Parents say abuse cases give a bad rap

By KRISTEN DE GROOT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AP
In this Thursday, Oct. 20, 2016 photo, vegan mother Fulvia Serra plays with her 1-year-old baby Sebastiano, at home in Fort Collins, Colo.

PHILADELPHIA (AP)— There's a right way and a wrong way to raise a baby on vegan food. Those who get it wrong, parents say, give the responsible ones a bad name.

A Pennsylvania mother claiming to be vegan was charged this month with child endangerment for feeding her baby nothing but small amounts of nuts and berries. In Italy, after a number of vegan babies required hospitalization for malnourishment, a lawmaker this summer proposed a bill that would make it a crime to feed children under 16 a vegan diet.

Those cases are not about veganism at all, but are instead about neglect, say parents who are raising their children vegan. Pinning bad parenting on vegan diets, some say, unfairly stigmatizes those who have done their homework and are safely raising their babies without feeding them animal products like meat and dairy.

"They stress the elements of veganism in these stories, but it's not that these people aren't giving their children the right kind of food, it's that they aren't feeding them," said Fulvia Serra, of Fort Collins, Colorado. The native of southern Italy is raising her 1-year-old son vegan, and her 12-year-old daughter is vegetarian.

"To get a child to the point of starvation, it means you are ignoring him and his crying all the time," she said. "It's neglect."

The American Academy of Pediatrics' book "Pediatric Nutrition" devotes a chapter to vegetarian and vegan diets. It describes how, with sound nutrition and dietary planning, "it is possible to provide a balanced diet to vegetarians and vegans."

"For children in general you can have a safe vegan diet, but it has to be in consultation with a pediatrician or health care provider," said Sheela Magge, an endocrinologist at the Children's National Health System and a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics' committee on nutrition. "These are critical times in brain development, and it has to be done carefully."

The ideal first food for babies is breast milk, Magge said. Many vegan moms opt to breastfeed, but for those who can't or don't, the only other option is a soy-based formula.

Key nutrients for babies are Vitamin B-12 and Vitamin D, as well as iron, zinc and calcium, Magge said. Getting enough B-12, which comes from milk and eggs, is a specific concern in the vegan diet, since a shortage can lead to neurological problems.

As babies nurse less and start consuming more solid foods, parents need to make sure all the nutrients necessary for proper development are being provided. A pediatrician can help guide parents and offer supplements if needed.

In the Pennsylvania case, Elizabeth Hawk was charged Oct. 4 with endangering her 11-month-old son by restricting him to a diet of small amounts of fruit and nuts. Hawk, 30, of Farmington, became "obsessed" with a vegan diet, prompting her estranged husband to contact Fayette County child welfare workers, according to a criminal complaint.

Doctors determined in August that the baby had developmental delays and couldn't crawl because he was malnourished, according to the complaint. The malnourishment also worsened a bad rash, the complaint said.

Calls seeking comment from Hawk, her former husband and the public defender's office weren't returned.

Stories of vegan parents being arrested for malnourished children pop up every few years in the U.S., and the cases in Italy have made international news.

In Arizona, Kimu Parker was arrested in April 2005 for nearly starving her three children with a diet she and the children's father called vegan. She was sentenced to 30 years in prison; the father, Blair Parker, got 15 years.

In Florida in 2005, Joseph and Lamoy Andressohn got probation for neglect in the death of their 6-month-old son, who was fed only wheat grass, coconut water and almond milk.

In Georgia, Jade Sanders and Lamont Thomas were sentenced to life in prison for the 2004 death of their 6-week-old son, who starved to death after they fed him a too-limited diet of soy milk and apple juice.

Suzanne Lewis, a high school biology teacher in Reno, Nevada, who is raising her 8-year-old son vegan, feels more scrutinized when she hears such stories.

"It makes me wonder if people are questioning me," she said. Vegan acquaintances have told her about being forwarded such articles from disapproving friends and family members, she said.

Reed Mangels is a nutritionist in Amherst, Massachusetts, who works with the Vegetarian Resource Group, a nonprofit education and advocacy group. She raised her two children, now 24 and 21, vegan. She said such news stories about malnourished children can be stressful for parents who have done their homework and have to defend themselves time and again.

"The problem is not the vegan part of the diet, but it's the inadequacy of the diet," she said of cases that make the news.

"Where on earth did they get the idea that this was a vegan diet?" she said.

Parents raising vegan kids need to be armed with facts, like being able to rattle off which foods and supplements are providing adequate vitamin B-12 and protein and where their kids are getting calcium. For those who would question the safety of raising vegan babies, her suggested response is: "The doctors say we are doing it right."

AP
In this Thursday, Oct. 20, 2016 photo, vegan mother Fulvia Serra holds her 1-year-old son, Sebastiano, at home in Fort Collins, Colo.

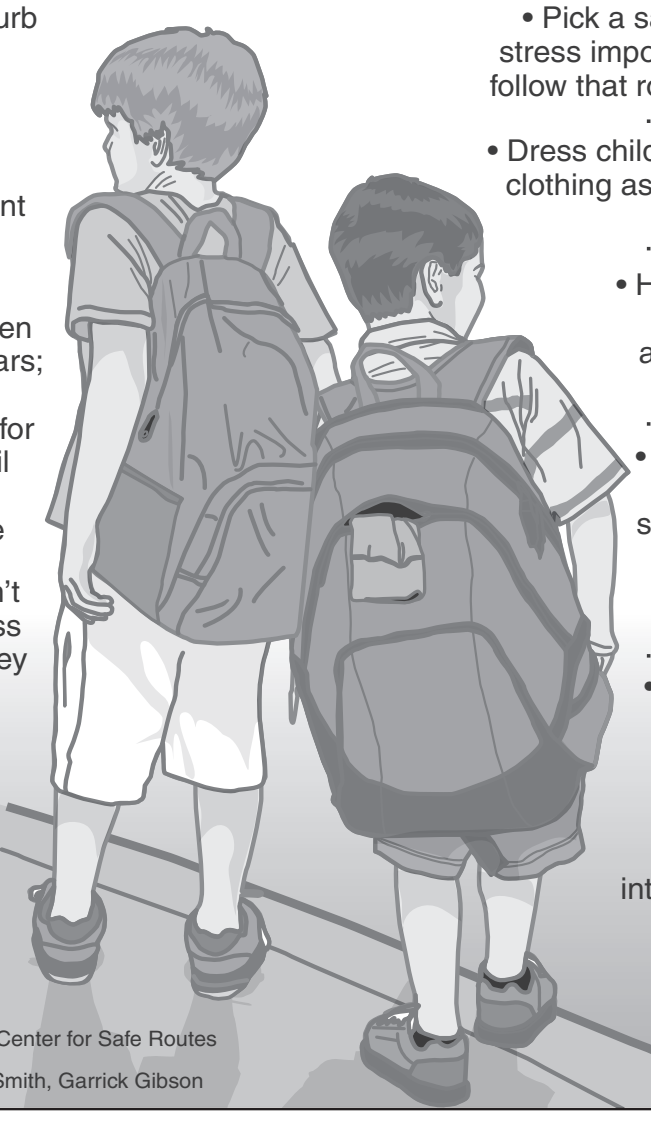
Kids Health Matters

Walking to school

Walking to and from school provides many benefits, such as improving health and reducing traffic, but safety needs taught and reinforced.

Crossing streets

1. Stop at curb or edge of street
2. Look left, right, left and in front and back for traffic
3. Cross when traffic clears; keep watching for traffic until reaching other side
4. Walk, don't run, across street; obey all traffic signs, signals, crossing guards



Rules to follow

- Pick a safe route, stress importance to follow that route daily
- Dress child in bright clothing as much as possible
- Have child walk with a friend or group
- Teach no pushing, shoving or chasing near streets
- Teach to watch for vehicles at every driveway and intersection

© 2008 MCT
Source: National Center for Safe Routes to School (U.S.)
Graphic: Angela Smith, Garrick Gibson

Life & Style

Nobel academy member calls Bob Dylan's silence 'arrogant'

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP)—A member of the Swedish Academy that awarded the 2016 Nobel Prize in literature to Bob Dylan says the American singer-songwriter's silence since receiving the honor is "impolite and arrogant."

Per Wastberg said Dylan's lack of reaction to the honor the academy bestowed on him last week was predictable, but disrespectful nonetheless.

"One can say that it is impolite and arrogant. He is who he is," Wastberg was quoted as saying in Saturday's edition of the Swedish newspaper Dagens Nyheter.

Wastberg said the academy still hopes to communicate with the 75-year-old artist, whose Nobel credits him with creating "new poetic expressions within the great American song tradition."

"We have agreed not to lift a finger. The ball lies entirely on his half," Wastberg told the newspaper. "You can speculate as much as you want but we don't." He was not immediately available for comments.

The academy said it has failed to reach the tight-lipped laureate since he became the first musician in the Nobel's 115-year history to win the prize in literature. The award was mentioned on Dylan's official Twitter and Facebook accounts.

Dylan spokesman Larry Jenkins did not respond to an email Saturday seeking comment.

The literature prize and five other Nobel Prizes will be officially conferred in Stockholm on Dec. 10, the anniversary of award founder Alfred Nobel's death in 1896.

Literature laureates have skipped the ceremony before. In 2004, Austrian playwright and novelist Elfriede Jelinek stayed home, citing a social phobia.

Harold Pinter and Alice Munro missed the ceremony for health reasons in 2005 and 2013, respectively.

Only two people have declined a Nobel Prize in literature. Boris Pasternak did so under pressure from Soviet authorities in 1958 and Jean-Paul Sartre, who declined all official honors, turned it down in 1964.

Although Dylan has not commented publicly on winning the Nobel, privacy and the price of fame have been themes in his music.

It's easy to read a response to Wastberg's remarks in the 1981 song, "The Groom's Still Waiting at The Altar."

"Try to be pure at heart, they arrest you for robbery," part of the lyrics say. "Mistake your shyness for aloofness, your silence for snobbery."

Each of this year's Nobel Prizes is worth 8 million Swedish kronor, or about $930,000.

Wonder Woman named a special UN ambassador, despite protests

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The United Nations celebrated Wonder Woman's 75th birthday on Friday by naming the comic book character as its new Honorary Ambassador for the Empowerment of Woman and Girls, despite frustration from both inside and outside the world organization that the spot should go to a real—and less sexualized—woman.

The carefully choreographed ceremony was marred by some 50 U.N. staffers protesting by the visitors' entrance to the U.N., who then went inside the Economic and Social Council chamber and silently turned their back to the stage during the opening speech, some with their fists in the air.

U.N. staffer Cass DuRant, who held a sign saying "Real Women Deserve a Real Ambassador," said the protesters "don't think that a fictitious comic book character wearing basically what looks like a Playboy-type bunny outfit is really the right message we need to send to girls or even boys for that matter."

The super heroine's image will be used by the U.N. on social media platforms to promote women's empowerment, including on gender-based violence and the fuller participation of women in public life (using the hashtag WithWonderWoman). The push, hoping to reach young people, is backed by DC Entertainment and Warner Bros., which produce both comics and films featuring Wonder Woman.

AP

Gal Gadot, star of the upcoming film, "Wonder Woman," takes the podium to address a U.N. meeting to designate Wonder Woman as an Honorary Ambassador for the Empowerment of Women and Girls, Friday, Oct. 21, 2016 at U.N. headquarters.

But an online petition , started by U.N. staffers, asked the secretary-general to reconsider the appointment, saying, "The message the United Nations is sending to the world with this appointment is extremely disappointing." As of Friday afternoon, it had more than 1,100 signatures.

Honorary ambassadors—as opposed to goodwill ambassadors like Nicole Kidman and Anne Hathaway—are fictional characters. The U.N. previously tapped Winnie the Pooh to be an honorary Ambassador of Friendship in 1998, and Tinker Bell as the honorary Ambassador of Green in 2009. But the protest on Friday seemed to unnerve many of the U.N.'s press officers.

The Friday event brought together actress Lynda Carter, who played Wonder Woman in the 1970s TV series, and Gal Gadot, who has taken on the role in the forthcoming "Wonder Woman" film, as well as Girl Scouts in Wonder Woman T-shirts and U.N. staffers' kids who skipped school, with one girl wearing a full Wonder Woman costume, complete with head piece. Diane Nelson, president of DC Entertainment, gave a speech in which she argued that stories—even comic book stories—can "inspire, teach and reveal injustices."

Prince Albert buys Philadelphia home of mom Grace Kelly

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—The Philadelphia home where Oscar-winning actress Grace Kelly grew up and accepted a marriage proposal from Prince Rainier III of Monaco in 1955 is now in the hands of the royal family.

Her son, Prince Albert of Monaco, has confirmed to People Magazine that he was the recent purchaser of the six-bedroom, 2.5-story Colonial home in the city's East Falls section.

He said in an interview on the magazine's website posted Friday that the house is "very special to our family." He said he was happy to have saved it "from a near certain death or development."

The property last made headlines in 2014 when its 81-year-old former owner pleaded no contest to animal cruelty charges for keeping cats and dogs in unsanitary conditions. Officials with the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals seized 15 cats from the home and found the remains of several others. The owner had lived in the large brick house since 1973.

Real estate agent John O'Connell of Elfant Wissahickon Realtors said the home sold for $754,000.

The prince told the magazine he planned to visit Philadelphia on Tuesday as he considers plans for the home.

"We're still trying to figure out what we're going to do with it," he said. "We're looking at having it contain some museum exhibit space and maybe use part of it for offices for some of our foundation work."

The home was built in 1935 by Kelly's father, John B. Kelly. He was a three-time Olympic gold medal-winning rower in the 1920s and later a prominent businessman active in Philadelphia politics. A sign posted outside designates the structure as a Pennsylvania historical landmark.

The estate sits on a 0.69-acre (0.279-hectare) parcel that features gardens and a private backyard. Inside, the home boasts a formal paneled dining room, finished basement and a barroom.

Grace Kelly left Philadelphia at age 20 for Hollywood, but remained adored by Philadelphians through the years. The city mourned after Princess Grace died in 1982 from injuries she suffered in an automobile crash in France that involved her teenage daughter. She was 52.

Obama nixes twerking at final White House musical event

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama said he's sad that one of his and the first lady's favorite traditions, musical night at the White House, ended Friday.

Obama and his wife, Michelle, have reserved certain evenings over the past eight years to celebrate music that has helped shape America. They held big blowout concerts spotlighting classic, country, blues, Broadway, gospel, Motown, Latin and jazz either inside the White House or out on the lawn.

The tradition ended Friday as Obama kicked off his final musical night, BET's "Love and Happiness" event in a tent on the South Lawn.

He joked that he wouldn't be singing any Al Green—despite the concert title. When Obama sang the opening lines of Green's "Let's Stay Together" at a fundraiser at Harlem's Apollo Theater in January 2012, the video went viral.

"We've had Bob Dylan and we've had Jennifer Hudson. Gloria Estefan and Los Lobos. Aretha, Patti, Smokey," Obama said to open the show. "I've had Paul McCartney singing 'Michelle' to Michelle and Stevie singing 'Happy Birthday.'"

"We've had Buddy Guy and Mick Jagger getting me to sing 'Sweet Home Chicago,'" he continued. "So this has been one of our favorite traditions, and it's with a little bit of bittersweetness that this is our final musical evening as president and first lady."

Jill Scott opened with a booming version of her hit "Run Run Run." The show was also featuring performances by Usher, The Roots, Bell Biv DeVoe, Janelle Monae, De La Soul, Yolanda Adams, Michelle Williams and Kiki Sheard.

Actors Samuel L. Jackson, Jesse Williams of "Grey's Anatomy" and Angela Bassett were also appearing.

Terrence J, the former host of BET's "106 & Park," and actress-comedian Regina Hall were the presenters.

Obama described the ability to summon celebrities as "one of the perks of the job that I will most, along with Air Force One, and Marine One," the presidential helicopter. "You know, if you can just call up Usher and say, 'Hey, come on over ...'"

Before taking a seat in the front row alongside Mrs. Obama, the president reviewed White House musical history and said live performances have always been a part of life there, dating to 1801 when the U.S. Marine Band played at the first reception hosted by President John and Abigail Adams.

President Chester Arthur invited an all-black singing group to perform, and Teddy Roosevelt welcomed ragtime composer Scott Joplin because Roosevelt's daughter wanted to hear that "new jazz," Obama said.

Guests of President John F. Kennedy even did the "twist" in the East Room, "which may not sound like a big deal to you, but that was sort of the twerking of their time," Obama told the star-studded audience of several hundred people, seated in an elaborate tent that was used earlier in the week for the Obamas' final state dinner. "There will be no twerking tonight. At least not by me. I don't know about Usher."

Obama said the White House is the "People's House," so it makes sense that it reflect the diversity, imagination and ingenuity of the American people.

Astley never stops appreciating 'Never Gonna Give You Up'

NEW YORK (AP)—Rick Astley exiled himself from music for a good part of the last three decades, but he never really left pop's consciousness.

For one, hits like "Never Gonna Give You Up" and "It Would Take A Strong Strong Man," derided by critics as cheesy at the time, have endured. Then there's the whole rick-rolling phenomenon—when a promised link on a web site turns out instead to be an Astley video.

At first, Astley was annoyed by rick-rolling. Then his daughter helped him realize that it was cool—and that it helped boost his profile during his fallow years by keeping his boyish face in ours.

He's even more appreciative now as he releases "50," his first album of new music in 23 years.

"The idea of me releasing a new record now—I need every bit of help I can get," he quipped.

AP

In this Aug. 9, 2016 photo, singer Rick Astley poses for photos in New York to promote his first album of new music in 23 years.

He may not have needed it as much as he thought: The album debuted at the top of the charts in his native United Kingdom, and when he performed his first U.S. shows in New York and Los Angeles over the summer, they sold out. He wrapped up a short U.S. tour earlier this month.

The still boyish-looking Astley recently sat down with The Associated Press to talk about life after his '80s pop success, rick-rolling and what music means to him now.

AP: During your break, did you ever long to get back to music?

Astley: I think you never lose that feeling of—'cause you know I still got an ego—whether you retire or not. I mean, it's still there and there is a little voice on your shoulder sort of saying, 'You're better than him.'... I think that is one the lucky things about what I chose to do and what I love to do, you know ... it is a young person's world really, but you know an old boy like me can still make a record and can still make a bit of a splash.

AP: You think the whole 'rick-roll' thing was good for you?

Astley: Absolutely it was because I think if you're doing anything like music or movies, there is so much competition. ... And also there have been some really, really clever things done with that song. It has not just been rick-roll. There have been so many different things. One of my favorites is they got (President Barack) Obama to sing "Never Gonna Give You Up" (in a mash-up video) or say it at least, which I thought was brilliant. I mean, it's obviously somebody with too much time on their hands, but they also did that with "Mad Men" as well.

AP: There are some artists who only want to perform their new songs. What's your take?

Astley: I'm not really in that camp, to be honest, because I had a long break from it, so it's not like I have been singing those tunes for 30 years. You know, I am fully aware of the fact that the only reason—you know we had a No. 1 album in the U.K. with this record—it's like the reason it got played on the radio with the first couple of tunes and stuff. ... When we play live and stuff, there is a part of me thinking, 'Great, we are going to finish "Never Gonna Give You Up," and I know every single person in this room or in this field knows that tune.' They might not all like it, but I know they all know it.

AP: What do you think of your music legacy? Are you resentful that some dismissed your music at the time?

Astley: No. I mean if I'd been a journalist and I had been reviewing my records ... you know I'm not so sure what I would think of it either. I mean, I think there are some really great strong pop songs ... but just looking at it you kind of think. 'Well yeah, but it's bit manufactured. ' ... I don't hold any grudges for people who had a go at me, you know what I mean? That's for sure.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Daughter of man in The Piano Guys missing in Oregon

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—The 21-year-old daughter of one of men in the Utah-based music group The Piano Guys has been reported missing and may have gotten injured or lost on a hike in the Columbia River Gorge in Oregon, authorities say. Anna Schmidt, the daughter of The Piano Guys' Jon Schmidt, was last seen Sunday, Portland police Sgt. Pete Simpson said. She was reported missing Wednesday, and her car was found a day later near Bonneville Dam. Schmidt enjoys hiking and she recently bought a new tent and backpack. Crews were searching the area surrounding the Toothrock Trailhead on Friday. Her mother, Michelle Schmidt of Salt Lake City, told KOIN-TV that she arrived in Portland this week to go on a camping trip with her daughter. After flying in, she learned her daughter hadn't been seen since Sunday. Anna moved to Portland from Salt Lake City in July. She is 5-foot-4, 125 pounds and has brown hair and brown eyes. Anyone who may have seen her is asked to call 911. Jon Schmidt joined his wife in Oregon, and both were at the search command post Friday. "If anyone was up here hiking Sunday afternoon, please take a look at the picture. If you know anyone who was hiking here, have them take a look at her picture, see if you recognize her," Jon Schmidt said.

Katy Perry visits UNLV dorms, urges students to vote Clinton

LAS VEGAS (AP) — UNLV students relaxing in their dorms got an unexpected knock on their doors Saturday afternoon from Katy Perry, who was roaming the halls and drumming up support for Hillary Clinton on the first day of early voting in Nevada. The singer famous for songs like "Teenage Dream" and "Waking up in Vegas" was met with squeals and requests for selfies from the students. She sported bright red lipstick that matched her high heels and a T-shirt emblazoned with the phrase "Nasty Woman," which has become a rallying cry for Clinton supporters after Donald Trump uttered it during Wednesday's presidential debate. "We're out here campaigning for Hillary Clinton. Ever heard of her?" she told a trio of young women after they invited her and a crowd of reporters into their dorm room. "Because there's no other alternative. We need our issues heard, we need our bodies taken care of, we need all that choice." She encouraged one student she met who might have to drop out of the school to stay the course, telling her she'd been through her own troubles after being dropped from record labels three times. And she told about her own financial problems at 17 when she couldn't buy a bag of chips without getting an overdraft charge.

Actress joins London protest seeking end to Aleppo bombing

LONDON (AP)—Hundreds of London protesters, including actress Carey Mulligan, have left teddy bears outside the prime minister's office as they demanded a larger British role in ending attacks on civilians in Syria's Aleppo. Demonstrators backed by Amnesty International and other activist groups gathered Saturday at the gates of Downing Street. They said the teddy bears represented thousands of children trapped in rebel-held areas of Aleppo targeted by Syrian government forces and their Russian allies. Mulligan said the British government must "take a really strong stance and come up with robust measures to deal with this." Calls for action ranged from tougher sanctions on Russia to the enforcement of a no-fly zone. British officials stress the need for diplomatic pressure on Russia but have shown little appetite for military action.

Supportive friend should leave therapy to an expert

DEAR ABBY: I am a college student on the East Coast. A dear friend of mine who attends the same university goes home on break to the West Coast.

She was raped at a party. Over the summer break she found out she was pregnant and had an abortion. She's now suffering from some intense emotional and psychological problems and sees a campus therapist.

Abby, I want to be supportive, but I'm not sure how. I don't know what to say around her or how to keep her mind off it, or if I should. Can you help me?

CONCERNED FRIEND

DEAR CONCERNED FRIEND: You are this young woman's friend. Let her know you are there for her. Treat her as you always have and talk about the things you always have with her. It is not your job to distract her from thinking about what happened to her.

If she wants to talk about it, be prepared to listen and sympathize. But if she needs more than that, remind her that she has a licensed therapist who is more qualified to help than you are, and encourage her to contact the person if something is dragging her down.

DEAR ABBY: I've had three different secretarial jobs over the last 10 years. At two of them something has happened, and I'm hoping you can help me deal with the situation.

While at my desk, I've had bosses who enter my office, come around to my side of the desk and stand very close to me. Sometimes they'll even start keying things into my computer—all without asking. It feels like an invasion of my personal space.

I wouldn't do that to them. Why do they feel they can do this to me? Or am I making too much of the whole thing? Please help.

SILENT SECRETARY IN TEXAS

DEAR SILENT: Different people have different boundaries when it comes to personal space. Because having someone come around your desk and stand close to you without permission makes you nervous, speak to your boss about it.

That someone would reach over you to type something into a document you are working on seems to me to be rude, but your employer may have been trying to add something or correct errors, and thought it would be a faster way of getting the job done than trying to explain it to you.

It might reassure you to discuss this with some of the other secretaries, ask if this is common and whether it bothers them, and let them advise you.

DEAR ABBY: I know food is often described as "finger-lickin' good," but I'm appalled at the number of people who literally do this at restaurants. Didn't they ever learn to use a napkin? What's next—licking each other's fingers? Can you comment?

MANNERLY OUT WEST

DEAR MANNERLY: I will ignore the temptation to give a naughty answer and offer a nugget of advice. Now that you know not everyone has table manners that measure up to your own—or even most folks'— do less people-watching in restaurants or eat at home.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

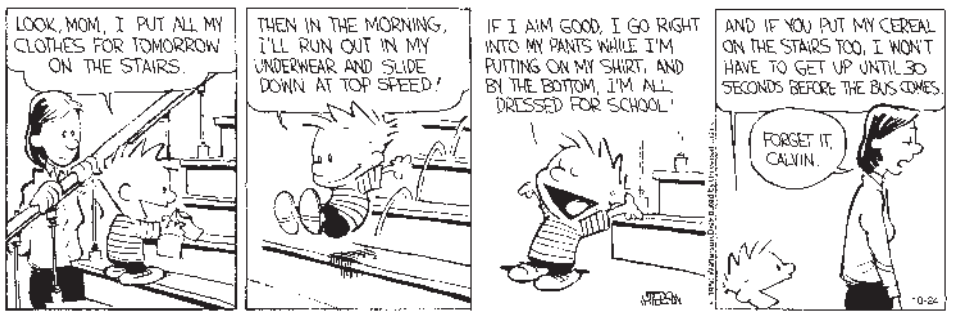
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

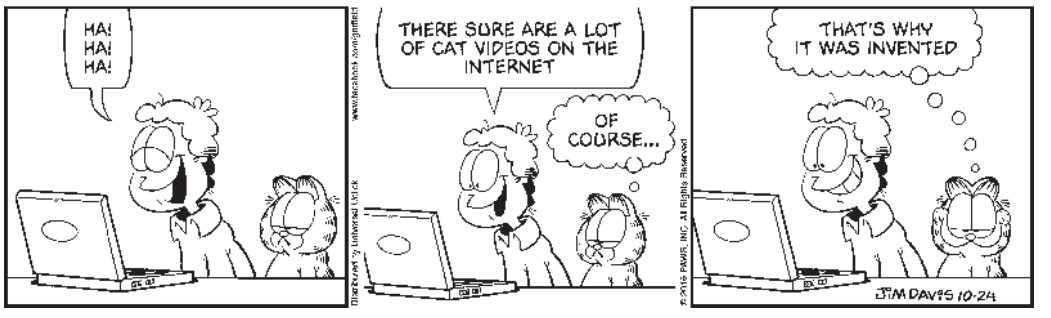
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


LOOK, MOM, I PUT ALL MY CLOTHES FOR TOMORROW ON THE STAIRS.
THEN IN THE MORNING, I'LL RUN OUT IN MY UNDERWEAR AND SLIDE DOWN AT TOP SPEED!
IF I AIM GOOD, I GO RIGHT INTO MY PANTS WHILE I'M PUTTING ON MY SHIRT, AND BY THE BOTTOM, I'M ALL DRESSED FOR SCHOOL!
AND IF YOU PUT MY CEREAL ON THE STAIRS TOO, I WON'T HAVE TO GET UP UNTIL 30 SECONDS BEFORE THE BUS COMES.
FORGET IT, CALVIN.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



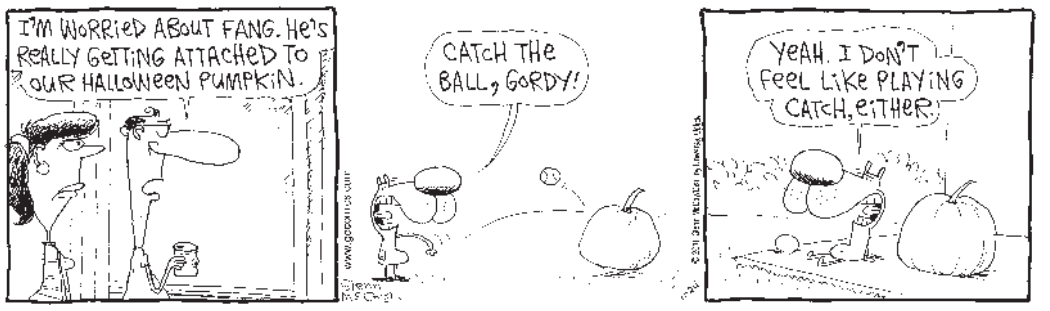
Adam@Home

By Bryan Basset

BOO!
AAAAA!
WOW! I GOT YOU GOOD!
CLAYTON! I SPILLED MY COFFEE AND MAY HAVE BROKEN MY COCCYX!
DANG IT! I WASN'T EVEN FILMING IT!
GET ME SOME PAPER TOWELS AND A DEFIBRILLATOR, STAT.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


I'M WORRIED ABOUT FANG. HE'S REALLY GETTING ATTACHED TO OUR HALLOWEEN PUMPKIN.
CATCH THE BALL, GORDY!
YEAH. I DON'T FEEL LIKE PLAYING CATCH, EITHER.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

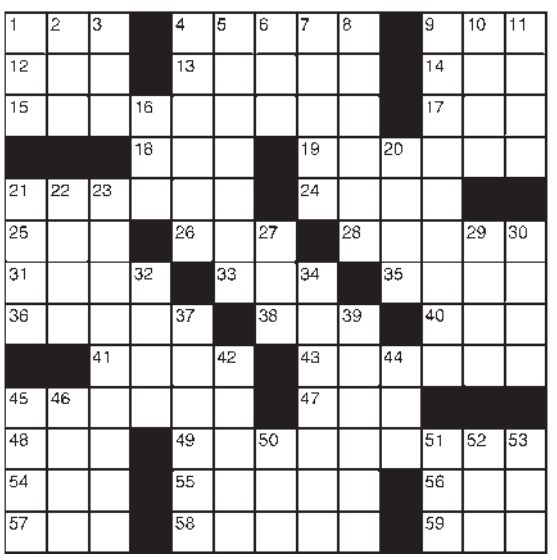
ACROSS
1 Spring month
4 Software writer
9 "Eureka!"
12 Lawyers' org.
13 Jung's inner self
14 Dallas hoopster, briefly
15 European capital
17 Enjoy Vail
18 Cyclades island
19 Tried
21 Cellist Pablo
24 Locale
25 Parcel of land
26 Aachen article
28 Bellini opera
31 Shortly
33 Tree fluid
35 Citrus drinks
36 Interior design
38 Jewel
40 Literary olio
41 Recognized
43 Partner (with)
45 Goddess of wisdom
47 Strike caller
48 Old Oldsmobile
49 European capital
54 Cartoon frame
55 Bottled spirit?
56 Victory sign
57 "Let me think ..."
58 Mystery-writing award
59 Gender

DOWN
1 Scratch
2 Jurist Fortas
3 "Rah!"
4 Wheedle
5 Jackie's Ari
6 Mil. group
7 Radiates
8 Amass, as wealth
9 European capital
10 Cod cousin
11 Eager
16 Sportage maker
20 Old portico
21 Not naked
22 Highly rated
23 European capital
27 Kvetch
29 Diner's card
30 Now, on a memo
32 Zilch
34 Porky Pig's love
37 Break a promise
39 Dues payer
42 Walked in water
44 "Simpsons" storekeeper
45 Eyebrow shape
46 Abound
50 Gerund ending
51 Motor homes, for short
52 "Gosh!"
53 Bad spell

Solution time: 28 mins.

D	A	B	■	F	I	M	■	B	E	A	N	S
E	W	E	■	D	I	E	■	O	N	C	U	E
V	A	L	■	D	E	I	E	R	G	E	N	■
O	R	O	■	A	G	A	P	E	■	■	■	■
N	E	W	S	■	D	L	I	■	A	G	E	E
■	■	■	P	I	S	■	C	O	G	E	N	■
B	A	S	I	N	■	■	■	I	I	A	C	■
U	R	G	E	N	T	■	S	E	N	■	■	■
B	E	T	S	■	B	O	C	■	G	L	A	M
■	■	■	■	S	I	X	E	S	■	O	C	A
S	T	R	A	I	N	G	E	N	T	■	P	H
A	E	I	O	U	■	Y	E	A	■	E	O	N
D	E	B	U	S	■	E	S	T	■	Z	O	E

Friday's answer 10 - 24



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kyla Ross, 20; Shenae Grimes, 27; B.D. Wong, 56; Kevin Kline, 69.

Happy Birthday: Look for new ways to move forward this year and you will make a positive change that will help ease your stress. Think big, but stay on budget and don't react until you have all the facts. Practical input will take you to the top. Honesty, integrity and taking care of your health are priorities. Your numbers are 1, 9, 17, 21, 29, 38, 41.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Money matters, contracts and personal commitments can all be addressed. Much can be accomplished if you are organized and stick to your game plan. Don't let someone's interference slow you down. Romance will highlight your day. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Plan for the future with someone you want to spend more time with. A colleague from your past will tell you about an interesting new opportunity. Get all the facts before you decide to make a change. A misunderstanding will set you back. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Be cautious about whom you trust to give you valid information. Mixed messages will lead to a problem with your personal or professional partnerships. Start by being honest with your assessment of the situations you face. Offer positive solutions. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Stay focused on your accomplishments. A creative outlet will help you see life differently and ease your stress at the same time. A retreat or lifestyle change will do you good. Express your feelings and positive changes will take place. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Take time out to attend to your personal needs. Update your look or focus your attention on someone you love. Travel, physical activities and changing your routine will boost your morale and motivate you to field your professional options. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Be cognizant of what's going on at home. Someone will withhold information that is vital to a decision you need to make. Rely on the sources you know you can count on. Common sense will help you avoid a mistake. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Offer help and you will receive favors in return. An encounter you have with someone will make you consider a new direction. Getting together with your family members will be insightful. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Keep a low profile. You don't want to stand out for fear of being put on the spot. You'll do much better if you take time to monitor what's going on around you before assessing what you should do. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You'll be tempted to drop everything and go on an adventure. Before you jump the gun, however, consider what that might do to your current position and your relationships with others. Work first and then you can play. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Getting worked up over nothing is fruitless. Don't take criticism to heart, but incorporate helpful suggestions into your plan. Keeping your life simple will benefit you the most. Don't feel like you have to follow the crowd. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Take the plunge and do the things that excite you. You can bring about personal changes that you have been dreaming about for years. Don't be reluctant to press forward if it will lead to satisfaction and happiness. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Don't believe everything you hear, and don't repeat your mistakes. Make personal changes instead of trying to change others or get involved in affairs that shouldn't concern you. Strive for perfection mentally, physically and financially. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are entertaining, playful and appealing. You are resourceful and indulgent.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		7				9		
	2			3			8	
8		1	9		5	7		6
		6		7		5		
	7		3	4	1		9	
		2		5		3		
7		5	2		4	8		1
	4			8			6	
		9				4		

Difficulty Level ★ 10/24

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's SUDOKU Answer

6	8	9	5	7	4	3	2	1
5	4	2	3	6	1	8	7	9
3	7	1	8	2	9	6	5	4
2	6	4	7	1	5	9	8	3
8	5	3	4	9	2	7	1	6
1	9	7	6	3	8	5	4	2
9	1	5	2	8	6	4	3	7
4	3	6	1	5	7	2	9	8
7	2	8	9	4	3	1	6	5

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/24

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

RESTAURANT OVENS Solution: 7 letters

I	D	E	L	I	O	R	B	R	A	H	C	C	S	N
S	R	H	I	G	H	S	P	E	E	D	O	T	M	M
L	A	S	P	O	R	C	E	L	A	I	N	E	O	A
E	D	R	E	L	I	O	R	B	L	R	R	T	K	L
E	N	E	E	P	A	S	H	U	O	I	O	Ⓕ	E	A
T	A	K	F	Q	Y	N	E	O	F	R	Ⓐ	L	R	N
S	T	A	E	A	U	R	D	D	O	Ⓝ	H	E	O	O
S	S	B	H	L	S	I	O	I	I	D	O	H	T	I
E	T	R	C	Y	D	O	P	C	N	S	S	S	I	T
L	E	E	O	A	W	D	A	M	E	G	E	R	S	C
N	K	N	M	R	L	L	I	Z	E	N	A	E	S	E
I	S	A	B	T	K	C	A	R	Z	N	T	N	E	V
A	A	E	I	P	L	A	T	E	G	I	T	R	R	N
T	G	L	L	I	R	G	L	E	N	A	P	U	I	O
S	K	C	E	D	R	A	U	G	K	C	A	B	E	C

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Back Guard, Bakers, Broiler, Burners, Charbroiled, Chef, Cleaner, Coil, Combi, Convectional, Deck, Dip Tray, Door, Double, Equipment, Fan, Gaskets, Griddle, Grill, High Speed, Hoods, Hose, Landing, Motor, Panel, Pizza, Plate, Porcelain, Pyro Centric, Rack, Range, Rotisserie, Safe, Shelf, Sides, Smoker, Stainless, Standard, Steel, Wood Fire

Last Thursday's Answer: Strawberry

To purchase **WONDERWORD** books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

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(2) Fishermen, (1) Sales Representative. Minimum salary. Send resume to SMJ Corporation. P.O. Box 503944 Saipan, MP 96950.

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(1) PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR

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(2) Cook
(2) Waiter/Waitress
(1) Restaurant Manager

Applicants should have a minimum 2 years work related experience. Must be able to consistently demonstrate good customer service, preferably knows how to speak Chinese and Japanese. Flexible working hours.

(1) Maintenance Technician – Minimum 3 years work related experience. Flexible working hours.

Please mail resume to PMB 373 Box 10003, Saipan, MP 96950 or email newsic426@gmail.com.
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www.guam.wish.org
Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Cad Operator

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Respond to N15 Architects by Email to admin@n15architects.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Big Bell Inc invites qualified U.S. worker candidates to apply for the following positions :

(1) H.E. MECHANIC
(1) ADMIN SERVICES MANAGER
(2) PLUMBER

Interested applicants may apply at Big Bell Inc. office located at Koblerville Saipan. BBI is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Friday, October 28, 2016, at 8:30 a.m. at the TCGCC Hearing Room.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY
- a. Call to Order
- b. Roll Call
- c. Adoption of Agenda

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS[1]

III. REPORTS
- a. Chair's Report
- b. Executive Director's Report

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
- a. NMI Employees' DC Retirement Plan
- b. Personnel Regulations § 170-30.5-510 *Leave Balances from Previous Employment*

V. NEW BUSINESS
- a. Status Briefing from Casino Licensees'
  1. Bridge Investment Group, LLC.
  2. Alter City Group, Inc.
  3. Tinian Entertainment Company, Ltd.
- b. In the Matter of the Petition of GCA Leisure, LLC. To intervene in the licensure application of Tinian Entertainment Corp.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION[2]

VII. MISCELLANEOUS/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

[1] Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
[2] Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Danes Construction Corp. invites qualified U.S. worker candidates to apply for the following positions:

(1) Civil engineering Technician
(1) Computer User Support Specialist
(1) Marketing Specialist

Interested applicants may submit resume to: danes@guam.net
Danes Construction Corp. is an Equal Opportunity Employer

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Inventory Clerk
High School Diploma or general education degree; or one to 2 yrs. related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Submit Applications To:
Pam Pacific Enterprises Corp. Tel.: 235-7270

LOST PASSPORT

NAME:	**SHAO, HONGXIA**
PASSPORT NO.:	**G33890962**
DATE OF ISSUE:	**21 APRIL 2009**
DATE OF EXPIRATION:	**20 APRIL 2019**

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-DPW-003

SUBMISSION DATE: NOVEMBER 16, 2016 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF A DIGITAL BLACK & WHITE COPIER MACHINE/NETWORK PRINTER & SCANNER (W/COLOR SENDING) & FAX FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISION OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS; OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ **JAMES A. ADA**
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/S/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

LSG Sky Chefs

LSG SKY CHEFS is looking to hire qualified U.S. workers for the following position:

- **Cook/Cook Helper**
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- **Administrative Assistant**

Applications are available at the Main Office located on airport road, situated between American Red Cross Office and Historic Preservation Office, or send resume to rita.taitano@lsgskychefs.com
Deadline for submission is Friday, October 28, 2016.

Gemkell Saipan Corp. is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

Sales Associate, Full Time (1)
Responsible for managing the customer's experience by identifying customer's needs and recommending or promoting the appropriate merchandise. Sales Associates also process all modes of payment using the POS System and help maintain and enhance the overall appearance of the boutique by maintaining the cleanliness of the store (showcases and displays).

Requires: High School Diploma or a GED with prior work experience in luxury retail sales and must be able to lift at least 15 pound items and carry it for at least 100 yards with or without using a trolley. Preferably fluent in both written and oral communication in the English and Chinese (Mandarin) languages. Must be able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Familiarity with the POS System is preferred.

Sales Associate, Part Time (1)
Responsible for managing the customer's experience by identifying customer's needs and recommending or promoting the appropriate merchandise, using selling techniques particular to the "Retail Manual" that will be provided. Sales Associates also process all modes of payment using the POS System and help maintain and enhance the overall appearance of the boutique by maintaining the cleanliness of the store (showcases and displays).

Requires: High School Diploma or a GED with prior work experience in luxury retail sales and must be able to lift at least 15 pound items and carry it for at least 100 yards with or without using a trolley. Preferably fluent in both written and oral communication in the English and Chinese (Mandarin) languages. Must be able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Familiarity with the POS System is preferred.

Interested applicants may send their applications or resumes via email to gemkell_recruitment@tanholdings.com. To be considered, resumes/application documents must be submitted not later than October 27, 2016. Applications for Employment are available at the Century Tours Office, Kanoa Resort. Background checks will be required prior to employment.

BANK OF SAIPAN
Marianas Pride

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Bank of Saipan is seeking a highly educated, very experienced, and qualified fulltime professional for the position of President & CEO of the bank. This position is responsible for developing and expanding the bank's asset base through profitable growth of its market share or retail and commercial line of businesses. Responsible for providing supervision and direction for all bank personnel.

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
- Assumes responsibility for all aspects of bank operations.
- Monitors balance sheet and income statement
- Provides supervision and direction of all bank employees
- Monitors all activities of the bank including new loan requests, past dues, classified loans, non–accruals, overdrafts, and exceptions.
- Manages day to day cash/liquidity needs of the bank.
- Approves all request as directed by Lending Policy regulating such authority.
- Assumes responsibility and is accountable for the loan portfolio
- Intimately involved in annual financial audits
- Works closely with government agencies as needed.
- Works with Federal Reserve Bank as needed.
- Serves as the bank representative in professional, business, and community organizations and events to promote bank services.
- Coordinates directly with the Chairman of the Board for Board and committee functions

TECHNICAL/FUNCTIONAL COMPETENCIES REQUIRED:
- Strong financial and regulatory expertise with banking industry.
- Strong negotiation skills.
- Strong leadership, communication, organization, and analytical skills.
- Excellent interpersonal skills.
- Strong financial analytical and underwriting skills.
- Complex thinking capacity and skills.
- Knowledge of loan participation.
- Ability to lead others to comprehend complex issues from a higher level and bring value to management.

EDUCATION AND WORK EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:
- Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree in Finance, Management, or related field.
- Minimum of 10-20 years relevant industry and management experience.

SALARY
- Negotiable and would depend on the qualification & experience of the selected applicant.

NOTE: This job description is not intended to be all-inclusive. Employee may perform other related duties as assigned by the Chairman of the Board to meet the ongoing needs of the organization.

Candidates must be eligible to work in the US. Interested applicants are requested to submit their resume to:

Bank of Saipan, Main Office located in Chalan Kanoa,
Attention : Joe Ayuyu, Chairman of the Board

You may send by e-mail to jayuyu@yahoo.com.
No Phone calls please.

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Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Find today's solution in classified section

Cubs beat Dodgers to reach 1st World Series since '45

CHICAGO (AP)—Anthony Rizzo caught the ball for the final out and Wrigley Field erupted.

"I'm sleeping with this thing tonight," the Chicago Cubs first baseman told the pulsating crowd moments later, kissing the prized souvenir. "Are you kidding me? We're going to the World Series."

Cubs ... World Series? Yes, the Cubbies!

Next up, Game 1 in Cleveland.

With fans chanting, singing and waving those Ws, shaking the century-old ballpark and jamming the streets of Wrigleyville, the Cubs celebrated a moment many of their faithful wondered whether they would ever see.

Kyle Hendricks outpitched Clayton Kershaw, Rizzo and Willson Contreras homered early and the Cubs took their first pennant since 1945, beating the Los Angeles Dodgers 5-0 Saturday night to win the NL Championship Series in six games.

"Listen to them. Outside before the game was crazy. Inside the game was crazy," Cubs pitcher Jon Lester said.

"These guys have done nothing but support us from Day One. It's been unbelievable to be here and be part of this. Words can't really describe where I'm at right now," he said.

Cursed by a Billy Goat, bedeviled by Bartman and crushed by decades of disappointment, those "Lovable Losers" now have a chance to win it all.

Trying to win their first crown since 1908, manager Joe Maddon's team opens the World Series against Cleveland on Tuesday night.

The Indians haven't won it all since 1948—Cleveland and Cubs have the two longest title waits in the majors.

"This city deserves it so much," Rizzo said. "We got four more big ones to go, but we're going to enjoy this. We're going to the World Series. I can't even believe that."

All-everything Javier Baez and Lester shared the NLCS MVP. Baez hit .318, drove in five runs and made several sharp plays at second base. Lester, a former World Series champion in Boston, was 1-0 with a 1.38 ERA in two starts against the Dodgers.

The drought ended when Aroldis Chapman got Yasiel Puig to ground into a double play, setting off a wild celebration. And if they bring home the elusive championship?

"I may make the 'W' a tattoo," said chairman Tom Ricketts, who once lived across the street and met his wife in the bleachers.

Deemed World Series favorites since opening day, the Cubs topped the majors with 103 wins to win the NL Central, then beat the Giants and Dodgers in the playoffs.

The Cubs overcame a 2-1 deficit against the Dodgers and won their 17th pennant. They had not earned a World Series trip since winning a doubleheader opener 4-3 at Pittsburgh on Sept. 29, 1945, to clinch the pennant on the next-to-last day of the season.

The eternal "wait till next year" is over. No more dwelling on a history of failure—the future is now.

"We're too young. We don't care about it," star slugger Kris Bryant said. "We don't look into it. This is a new team, this is a completely different time of our lives. We're enjoying it and our work's just getting started."

Hendricks pitched two-hit ball for 7 1/3 innings. Chapman took over and closed with hitless relief, then threw both arms in the air as he was mobbed by teammates and coaches.

The Dodgers sent the minimum 27 batters to the plate and no one got past first base.

The Cubs shook off back-to-back shutout losses earlier in this series by pounding the Dodgers for 23 runs to win the final three games.

And they were in no way overwhelmed by the moment on Saturday, putting aside previous frustration.

In the 1945 Series, the Billy Goat Curse supposedly began when a tavern owner wasn't allowed to bring his goat to Wrigley. In 2003, the Cubs lost the final three games of the NLCS to Florida, punctuated with a Game 6 defeat when fan Steve Bartman deflected a foul ball.

Even as recently as 2012, the Cubs lost 101 times.

This time, no such ill luck.

Bryant had an RBI single and scored in a two-run first. Dexter Fowler added two hits, drove in a run and scored one.

Contreras led off the fourth with a homer. Rizzo continued his resurgence with a solo drive in the fifth.

That was plenty for Hendricks, the major league ERA leader.

Hendricks left to a standing ovation after Josh Reddick singled with one out in the eighth. The only other hit Hendricks allowed was a single by Andrew Toles on the game's first pitch.

Kershaw, dominant in Game 2, gave up five runs and seven hits before being lifted for a pinch hitter in the sixth. He fell to 4-7 in the postseason.

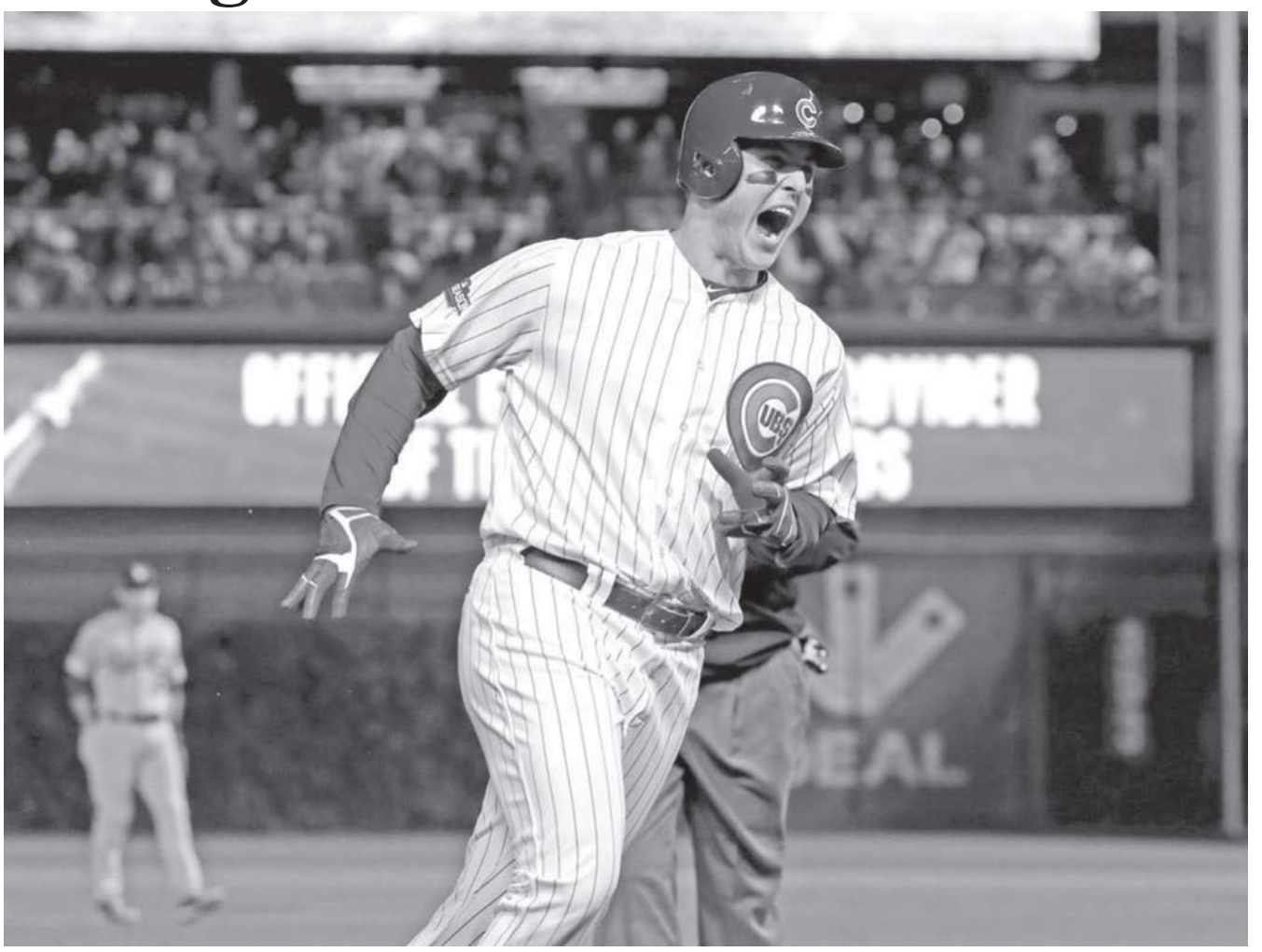
"This day is never fun, the ending of a season," Kershaw said.

The Dodgers haven't been to the World Series since winning in 1988.

Pitching on five days' rest, Kershaw needed 30 pitches to get through the first. Fowler led off with a double against the three-time NL Cy Young Award winner, and Bryant's single had the crowd shaking the 102-year-old ballpark.

Fans had more to cheer when left fielder Andrew Toles dropped Rizzo's fly, putting runners on second and third, and Ben Zobrist made it 2-0 a sacrifice fly.

The Cubs added a run in the second when Addison Russell doubled to deep left and scored on a two-out single by Fowler.



AP

Chicago Cubs first baseman Anthony Rizzo (44) celebrates as he runs bases after hitting a home run during the fifth inning of Game 6 of the National League baseball championship series against the Los Angeles Dodgers, Saturday, Oct. 22, 2016, in Chicago.

Kershaw struggles; Dodgers search for 1st title since 1988

CHICAGO (AP)—Clayton Kershaw's playoff renaissance is over, at least for this year. The Los Angeles Dodgers ace flopped at a big moment—again.

Kershaw's postseason resume took another hit in Game 6 of the NL Championship Series, finishing off the reeling Dodgers. The Chicago Cubs battered the three-time Cy Young Award winner on their way to a 5-0 victory Saturday night, making it 28 years and counting since the Dodgers last won the World Series.

"This day is never fun, the ending of a season," Kershaw said. "You look back and think about the whole season as a whole. It's tough to swallow tonight, obviously, but I'd rather be in this position and fail than not to get to be in this situation at all."

Kershaw could have started Game 5 on three days' rest, but manager Dave Roberts decided to save him for Saturday night at Wrigley Field. Roberts was hoping a couple more days would help Kershaw duplicate his performance from Game 2, when he pitched seven innings of two-hit ball in a 1-0 victory.

The decision worked out quite well—for the Cubs. After winning a pair of shutouts in Games 2 and 3, the Dodgers dropped the next two by a combined score of 18-6. Even the great Kershaw was unable to slow Chicago's momentum, and Roberts' first season as Dodgers manager ended in disappointment.

The left-hander allowed four earned runs and seven hits while dropping to 4-7 with a 4.55 ERA in 18 playoff games.

"I think that the first thing I saw is the Cubs hitters, they had a great game plan tonight," Roberts said. "And there was a couple mistake sliders that they took advantage of. But they were running counts, they used the whole field, and there was traffic all night for Clayton. And he gave it everything he had, but when they did—when he did make a mistake, they made him pay."

Dexter Fowler hit a ground-rule double on Kershaw's third pitch of the night, and the Cubs were off and running. Kris Bryant followed with an RBI single. Then left fielder Andrew Toles dropped Anthony Rizzo's fly ball to the gap in left-center, setting up Ben Zobrist's sacrifice fly.

It was the first time Kershaw had given up two runs in the first inning all season. He was limited to 21 starts this year due to a back injury.

"You get out of that first inning and you give up two, you feel like you have a chance maybe," Kershaw said. "They just kept tacking on runs. I gave up some two-out hits and some homers and some two-strike hits - just a lot of things that you can't do in a game like this."

Fowler added a two-out RBI single in the second, rookie Willson Contreras hit a leadoff drive in the fourth and Anthony Rizzo connected in the fifth. Rizzo became the first lefty batter to homer against Kershaw since Daniel Murphy for the New York Mets in Game 4 of their 2015 Division Series.

It was the first time Kershaw had allowed two homers in a game since April 9 at San Francisco. That was it for Roberts, who hit for his star pitcher in the sixth.

"We have asked a lot of Clayton all year long, so, again, it's just more of you got to give those hitters credit," Roberts said.

While Kershaw struggled against the Cubs, the Dodgers were shut down by Kyle Hendricks and Aroldis Chapman. Los Angeles managed just two hits and four baserunners, with none of them advancing past first.

Chicago became the first team to face the minimum in a postseason game since Don Larsen's perfect game for the New York Yankees in the 1956 World Series.

"We had a 2-1 lead with two games at home and it didn't go the way we thought it would go," Los Angeles center fielder Joc Pederson said. "We didn't take care of business. We made some mistakes, all of us."

Roberts managed the Dodgers to their fourth straight NL West title after taking over for Don Mattingly. But injuries to Scott Kazmir, Brandon McCarthy, Brett Anderson and Hyun-Jin Ryu hurt rotation depth.

Kenta Maeda, who won 16 games during his rookie season, struggled in the playoffs, and 20-year-old Julio Urias was knocked out in the fourth inning of his first postseason start in Game 4 on Wednesday night.

Los Angeles went with three starters in the Division Series against Washington and Kershaw pitched three times, including a two-out save in the clinching Game 5. When he stepped up again in his first start in the NLCS, it looked as if he might be on the verge of a postseason breakthrough.

Rodgers throws 3 TD passes, Packers beat Bears, 26-10

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP)—Aaron Rodgers set a record. The Chicago Bears lost another quarterback.

After a slow start in the red zone, the Green Bay Packers picked up the pace in the second half to overpower their offensively-challenged NFC North rivals.

Rodgers threw for 326 yards and three touchdowns, Davante Adams and Ty Montgomery emerged as playmakers in the second half and Packers beat the Bears 26-10 on Thursday night.

Rodgers was 39 of 56, setting a franchise mark for completions in a game. It was the Packers' first contest without injured running back Eddie Lacy .

"A lot of moving parts, a very satisfying victory at home," coach Mike McCarthy said.

The Packers (4-2) moved effectively on short gains most of the night, but couldn't break into the end zone until Adams caught the first of his two touchdown receptions with 9:11 left in the third quarter for a 13-10 lead.

Rodgers and Adams combined again for a 4-yard score on the first play of fourth quarter for a 10-point lead.

The Bears (1-6) lost quarterback Brian Hoyer to a broken left arm in the second quarter. With Jay Cutler already out with a right thumb injury, Chicago turned to third-stringer Matt Barkley.

An offense that was already 31st in the league in scoring got worse. Barkley was 6 of 15 for 81 yards and two interceptions.

"Well, when you lose your starting quarterback it can be disruptive," Bears coach John Fox said. "It's not an excuse, it's just a reality,"

He tried to lean on the rush against the NFL's third-best run defense. It didn't work either.

Kadeem Carey had 48 yards on 10 carries, including a 24-yarder. Receiver Alshon Jeffery was held to three catches for 33 yards against a Packers secondary without its top three cornerbacks because of injuries.

It got so bad for the Bears that Rodgers had more completions (37) than the Bears had offensive plays (36) by 5:31 of the fourth quarter.

That 37th completion for Rodgers was a 2-yard touchdown pass to Randall Cobb for a 16-point lead.

Adams, Montgomery and Cobb each finished with at least 10 receptions.

AP

Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers (12) tries to runs away from Chicago Bears outside linebacker Leonard Floyd (94) during the first half of an NFL football game, Thursday, Oct. 20, 2016, in Green Bay, Wis.

HOYER HURT

Hoyer left early in the second quarter after getting hit by Julius Peppers and Clay Matthews on an incompletion on third-and-6 from midfield. The right-handed Hoyer looked as if he landed on his left arm . He was attended to by trainers on the field for a couple minutes before going to the locker room. Hoyer was 4 of 11 for 49 yards.

TRIPLE THREAT

Adams had 13 catches for a career-high 132 yards, making Jordy Nelson-like moves to spin out of tackles for extra yards. Adams had just been cleared earlier Thursday from the NFL's concussion protocol after leaving the loss Sunday to Dallas.

Cobb finished with 11 catches for 95 yards.

Montgomery, who got the start in the backfield with running backs Lacy (ankle) and James Starks (knee) out, finished with 10 catches for 66 yards, and nine carries for 60 yards.

"You do what you have to do, you play the way you have to play," McCarthy said.

BIG FLOYD

The Bears' only touchdown came from rookie pass-rushing linebacker Leonard Floyd, who forced Rodgers to fumble on third-and-10 from the 15 on a sack. Floyd recovered the ball in the end zone for a 10-6 lead, 30 seconds into the third quarter.

Floyd had been limited in practice this week with a calf injury.

"He's got those kind of abilities. It's been problematic a little bit having him out there, but it was good to have him back out there tonight," Fox said.

The Packers scored touchdowns on their next three drives.

SLOW START

The Packers moved effectively with short passes in the first half but stalled on three drives inside the 22. Mason Crosby salvaged two series with field goals, but the Packers went scoreless on another drive when Montgomery was stopped on a fourth-and-goal run from the 1.

Green Bay, which led 6-3 at the half, exploited the Bears' underneath coverage. They also threw short passes as a substitute for the running game.

QUOTABLE:

"It means we threw it a lot. But a lot of times records like these are achieved in losses when you're way behind," Rodgers about his completions record.

INJURY REPORT

Bears: Besides Hoyer, RG Kyle Long left in the second quarter with an arm injury.

Packers: RB Don Jackson, who was just activated from the practice squad Thursday to replace Lacy, left in the first quarter with a hand injury.

NFL didn't learn its lesson after Ray Rice incident

After mishandling Ray Rice's domestic violence incident two years ago, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said "I got it wrong" and vowed "the same mistakes can never be repeated."

It doesn't appear the league learned its lesson.

The NFL placed kicker Josh Brown on paid leave Friday, a day after re-opening its investigation into the 2015 domestic abuse complaint against the 14-year veteran. Brown said in journal entries and emails released by police on Thursday that he repeatedly verbally and physically abused his former wife, Molly Brown.

The revelations left fans outraged because Brown received only a one-game suspension following the league's 10-month investigation into the case.

So, the big question is this: How much did the New York Giants know and what did the NFL know about Brown's history of abusing his ex-wife?

"You very rarely have a Ray Rice video," Giants co-owner John Mara said in August.

Mara told WFAN radio on Thursday he was upset about the latest information.

"I am certainly disturbed by what we read," Mara said. "He has admitted to us that he abused his wife in the past. I think what is a little unclear is the extent of that, but what we have read about is obviously disturbing."

The league said its "investigators made repeated attempts—both orally and in writing—to obtain any and all evidence and relevant information in this case from the King County (Washington) Sheriff's Office."

They were denied because it was an ongoing investigation.

However, Sheriff John Urquhart told KIRO Radio in Seattle that the NFL failed to go through proper channels and the investigator didn't identify himself as working for the league.

"At no time has the NFL ever filed a written public disclosure request for any of these files. Period. It's never happened," Urquhart told the station.

Goodell explained the league's position in a BBC interview on Friday.

"You have to make decisions on whatever information you have," Goodell said in a transcript of the London interview provided by the BBC. "We take this issue incredibly seriously. ... When it happens we're not going to tolerate it. So we have some new information here, we'll evaluate that in the context of our policy and we'll take it from there."

Molly Brown did not respond to messages from The Associated Press seeking comment. A law firm representing the kicker declined to comment.

Here's some of the information and allegations police summarized based on interviews they conducted with Molly Brown:

■ Molly Brown stated that Josh Brown had been physically violent with her on more than 20 different instances over the past several years.

■ Molly said she never received medical attention for any of the abuse.

■ Molly said "Giants attorneys" helped the troubled couple deal with a landlord who threatened to "blackmail" them and tell the media about police being called to their apartment in Hoboken, New Jersey, two or three times in 2014-15. "They were fully aware about it and they, you know, basically did what they needed to do to make the guy go away," she told detectives in May 2015. The Giants disputed the "blackmail incident" in August. "We think the situation ... may have been a dispute that Josh had with his then-landlord in Hoboken over lease issues. During that dispute, Josh felt threatened by the landlord or her boyfriend. We advised Josh on how to resolve that issue and referred him to a lawyer to handle the matter," the team said after Mara spoke to reporters on Aug. 23.

■ Molly said Josh showed up drunk at her hotel room during the 2016 Pro Bowl week and was pounding on her door to get in the room. She called NFL and hotel security, Josh was escorted away and the NFL put Molly and her children in a different hotel room.

■ Molly stated several friends of theirs, including other players in the NFL, were aware of the domestic abuse in her relationship with Josh. She said Josh even sent a personal email to several of their friends with an attached letter in March 2014 in which he admitted to being abusive to Molly.

■ Molly felt the NFL had clearly given the message that no one within the league was going to do anything to help her.

■ Molly feared people from the NFL and the Giants would look to pressure her into making this go away, so Josh and the team would not face any negative press.

■ Molly was upfront that in her experience, the NFL publicly says it has a no-tolerance policy on domestic violence, but the reality is that it does more crisis management and looks to cover things up.

Duncan-less Spurs eager for another run at NBA postseason

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—The San Antonio Spurs responded to their most successful regular season in franchise history with the greatest turnover in Gregg Popovich's two decades with the team.

Tim Duncan's retirement played a large role in the reconstruction, but so did losing in six games to Oklahoma City in the Western Conference semifinals.

Duncan is gone along with veterans Boris Diaw, Matt Bonner and late-season additions Andre Miller and Kevin Martin. While San Antonio added another veteran in Pau Gasol, they also brought in a lot of youth and athleticism as they prepared for life without Duncan, the power forward who led the franchise to five NBA titles in 19 seasons.

"Right now we don't know what we're going to miss on the floor because we haven't been through the season yet," Spurs forward Kawhi Leonard said. "(But) just knowing he's not here, his personality isn't here. Jokes that he makes during practice, that's the things I'm missing right now."

Duncan will be with the team occasionally as an unofficial assistant coach, but San Antonio is placing the team squarely in Leonard's hands. The 6-foot-7 forward finished second in MVP balloting after averaging a career-high 21.2 points and 6.8 rebounds last season. He also was named Defensive Player of the Year for the second straight season.

After spending his first five seasons adding a pull-up jumper and honing his 3-point shooting, Leonard spent this offseason working on something else: "Just becoming a leader. Just making sure I know what's going on on the floor at every position. Just getting ready to get my mentality of just leading the group this year."

Leonard's evolution as a leader should be aided by Gasol. The 17-year veteran won two NBA championships while with the Los Angeles Lakers.

"One thing that makes me feel a little better with (Duncan's) loss is Pau Gasol," Popovich said. "He is a very intelligent man and he understands how to play and he's played for a lot of good people. That's going to help us in that loss, but having said that, it will take time to get all the new guys to understanding exactly how we play and who goes with whom."

AP
San Antonio Spurs forward LaMarcus Aldridge (12) shoots against Houston Rockets forward Ryan Anderson during the second half of a preseason NBA basketball game, Friday, Oct. 21, 2016, in San Antonio.

Gasol averaged 16.5 points and 11.0 rebounds for Chicago last season while earning his sixth All-Star appearance. Duncan averaged 8.6 points and 7.3 rebounds in the final season of a Hall of Fame career.

Gasol's numbers will likely drop this season, though, as San Antonio will continue to develop around Leonard and LaMarcus Aldridge.

"It starts with me and L.A. first," Leonard said. "If we win a championship, it's going to be up to us to lead the group."

The duo earned All-Star berths last season while leading San Antonio to a franchise-record 67 victories. But the Spurs dropped four of five games to the Thunder in the West semifinals and San Antonio knew changes were needed. The Spurs drafted 6-foot-5 point guard Dejounte Murray and brought in 2011 second-round pick Davis Bertans at forward along with signing 7-foot center Dewayne Dedmon along with David Lee.

Some other things to know about the Spurs, who open the season Tuesday night at Golden State:

BACKGROUND NOISE

Aldridge struggled to fit into the team's offense in the first half of last season, but closed strongly to lead the team in rebounding and finish second in scoring. He said he was not bothered by reports San Antonio was willing to trade him.

"(Popovich is) a pretty direct person and this organization is first-class, so if that was the issue, I would have known way before the media knew," Aldridge said. "So, I wasn't worried about it at all."

BIG TWO?

Point guard Tony Parker suffered a drop in scoring for his third straight season, which is a product of the team's evolution rather than any decline in his game. The 6-foot-2 guard averaged 11.9 points last season, but he had a career-low 1.8 turnovers per game and shot 49 percent from the field. It was the third time in four seasons that Parker has shot 49 percent or better from the field. He also shot 42 percent on 3-pointers, marking the second straight season he has shot over 40 percent on 3s. Fellow veteran Manu Ginobili said he will not decide if this his last season until after it's done.

BOUNCING BERTANS

After averaging 7.9 points and shooting 47 percent on 3-pointers in 15 games for Baskonia in the Euroleague last season, Bertans is averaging 5.4 points and shooting 31 percent on 3-pointers in five preseason games for the Spurs. He has astounded his teammates with his leaping ability especially after right ACL surgery twice in the past three years.

"I think in the second ACL they put something special in there," Bertans said.

NMIFA

From Page 28

program, which is not only focused on developing our players, but also on our coaches and officials/referees. To have a complete and successful development program, we must continue training our coaches," Tan said.

Pagarao said attending the two-week course and making the grade gave her a better understanding of the game.

"I used to question some calls from the referees. I am also not so sure about the positions of the players in the field and other game tactics. But after this course, I learned a lot and these will help the players I coach. I am now more equipped with the proper training techniques and game plans," said Pagarao, who calls the shot for the boys U14 team of Kanoa Football Club.

Pagarao, after getting her certification, will be joining the CNMI U19 Women's National Team that will leave for Nanjing, China later this week to compete in the AFC U19 Women's Championship 2017 Qualifier. She is the squad's assistant mentor and has been working with head coach and former Olympian Luam Khen Koo in preparing the youth team for the qualifier that will be held from Nov. 2 to 5.

Pagarao and Ito were the second and third female coaches from the CNMI to earn an AFC C license. Paire Football Club's Patricia Coleman was the first one.

Meanwhile, the 21 other coaches who got their AFC C license are all from Guam. The list includes Chyna Ramirez, Maggie Phillips, Stewart, San Gil, Pauline Gumataotao, Katie Wendal, Matthew Elwell, Chris Shaver, Derrick Cruz, Thomas Pacileo, Dr. Gary Larkin, Shawn Gumataotao, Pution Mendiola, Jose Garcia, Micah Paulino, Pete Toves, Jeremy Wendal, Bryan Cadiz, Ross Awa, Ralph Awa, Kevin Elwell, Michelle Fatovic, and Chima Mbakwem.

ALI'I

From Page 28

split free throws, lifting Ali'i Blue Haus to a double-digit lead, 65-53, with less than two minutes to go.

A Ferdie Tobias' point-blanked shot off an offensive rebound off Matt Duenas' second miss from the foul line ended BSI-Blue House silence, 1:04 left in the match. Tobias also nailed the team's second and last field goal in the fourth quarter collapse with his banked triple beating the buzzer.

Tobias led all scorers with his 24 points, while Demapan paced Ali'i Blue Haus with his 14 markers. Tony Diaz was the other double-figure scorer for the solo leader, adding 10, while five other Ali'i Blue Haus players combined for 31 points.

In the first game, Cavite gained its second win in three matches after outlasting Stephen's Pawnshop, 81-77.

Cavite built enough cushion in the second quarter to withstand Stephen's Pawnshop's comeback bid in the second half. The winning team led at the break, 49-32, thanks to Preston Basa, who reported back to the game after missing their second assignment and scored 13 straight markers in the second quarter. The former Saipan Southern High School standout outgunned the entire Stephen's Pawnshop crew in the second period, as the latter was held to 11 points.

Stephen's Pawnshop tried to recover in the second half, but fell short as Basa's teammates picked up the slack to contribute to Cavite's victory.

Basa had 22 points to lead Cavite, while Marvin Rabauliman tallied 11 markers in his debut in the league. Jack Aranda top-scored for Stephen's Pawnshop with his 25 points.

First Game

Cavite 81— Basa 22, Rabauliman 11, Cosino 9, Iglecias 9, Barcinas 6, Palacios 4, Laguindam 4, Quemado 2, Sevilla 2, Garcia 2.

Stephen's Pawnshop 77 — Aranda 25, De Guzman 14, Abuy 13, Dayrit 8, Van Buren 8, Espinosa 8, L. Aquino 2.

Scoring by quarters: 21-21, 49-32, 69-54, 81-77.

Second Game

Ali'i Blue Haus 67 — Demapan 14, T. Diaz 10, Devero 8, E. Diaz 7, Guiab 6, Santos 5, Esdrelon 5, Pagarao 4, Barbo 3, Moises 2.

BSI-Blue Eagle 58 — Tobias 24, Palino 7, Mat. Duenas 7, Pablo 5, Raho 5, Standish 5, Man. Duenas 2, De La Torre 2.

Scoring by quarters: 13-18, 28-29, 49-49, 67-58.

MOC

From Page 28

tively, after checking in at 8:43.03 and 8:44.40.

In the 500m finale, which was also held last Saturday, MOC paddlers won anew against six other squads after logging 2:08.56. Manning and company crossed the finish line more than three seconds ahead of Belau Kanu Club Waterfall, which clocked in at 2:12.22. Taotao Galaide Ma'aksom rounded out the Top 3 after recording 2:14.22. Palau's PCC Mesekiu 3, IFIT, and PCC Mesekiu 1 were the other qualifiers in the 500m finals race after registering 2:14.71, 2:24.22, and 2:25.10.

After going 2-for-2 last Saturday, MOC paddlers returned to the waters off Meyuns Seaplane Ramp yesterday and completed the sweep after finishing the 12-mile long course in 1:28:16. They prevailed against seven other teams and were more than two minutes ahead of Hong Kong United, which logged 1:31:05.

PCC Mesekiu 3 joined MOC and Hong Kong United in the podium after checking in at 1:32:07. Belau Kanu Club Waterfalls placed fourth after submitting 1:32:55 and was followed by Taotao Galaide Ma'aksom (1:35:54), Haggan GWM (1:36:06), Guatdan Tasi (1:36:55), and PCC Mesekiu 2 (1:44:18).

With MOC ruling yesterday's long course event, the club became the first team from the CNMI to sweep the men's open competition in the Micro Cup.

Napu Outrigger Canoe Club, Saipan Paddling Club, and Marianas Pacific Paddlers were the other CNMI teams that joined the three-day tournament and results of their races will be reported in *Saipan Tribune* once they are made available.

2016 NMA All Schools Cross Country Series 3

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The first wave of runners heads out to the course during the third leg of the Northern Marianas Athletics' 2016 All Schools Cross Country Series held last Saturday at the CPA Airport Field.

A small group of runners tries to catch up with the leaders.

Three runners keep their pace as they are about to complete the one-mile race.

Runners check in at the timekeepers' table.

A San Vicente Elementary School runner carries his shoe on the way to the finish line.

The last batch of runners leaves the starting line.

Two San Vicente Elementary School runners are in a close race to the finish line.

Four Saipan Community School runners head to the finish line.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Historic sweep for MOC paddlers

Ali'i Blue Haus takes early lead

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Ali'i Blue Haus/Bayani's Bart Demapan, right, draws contact from BSI-Blue Eagle's Brady Hammond on his way for a short jumper during the fourth quarter of their game in the UFO/IT&E caging last Thursday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Ali'i Blue Haus/Bayani kept its unbeaten record in the 2016 UFO/IT&E Inter-Organizational Basketball League following a 67-58 win over Best Sunshine International-Blue Eagle/SMF last Thursday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

BSI-Blue Eagle folded up in the last 7:35 of the game, as it was held to two field goals in the remainder of the match and went scoreless for six minutes and change, allowing Ali'i Blue Haus to steal the win and improve to a league best 3-0 mark.

BSI-Blue Eagle was still up at 53-49 in the early part of the fourth canto before it struggled on offense as it played without Douglas Schmidt, while Matt Duenas became a marked man.

Ali'i Blue Haus, on the other hand, began to get its fastbreak game going to overhaul the deficit and hand BSI-Blue Eagle its first loss. Bart Demapan sparked Ali'i Blue Haus' run with his and-1 play on a fastbreak shot against Tony Raho. Edwin Santos and Manolo Manalo then completed the 12-0 surge with their

See ALI'I on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Marianas Outrigger Club paddlers gather for a photo before their races in the Micro Cup 2016 held over the weekend in the waters off Meyuns Seaplane Ramp in Koror, Palau.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Marianas Outrigger Club dominated the men's open division competition in the Micro Cup 2016 held over the weekend in the waters off Meyuns Seaplane Ramp in Koror, Palau.

The Dino Manning-captained MOC ruled the 500m and 1,500m sprints and the long distance race, besting teams from host Palau, Guam, and Hong Kong. MOC's men's squad has Jose Quan, Vince Tudela, Bobby Cruz, Rich Salas, Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel, Billy Grow, Angel San Nicolas, and James Lee as members.

MOC paddlers' first title win came in the 1,500m event last Saturday after they completed the three-lap course in 7:31.85. They made it to the finish line way ahead of runner-up Guam's Taotao Galaide Ma'aksom, who clocked in at 7:43.53. Only three teams capped the finals race under the eight-minute mark as Belau Kanu Club Waterfalls timed in at 7:53.52.

Three other squads raced in the finale with Guatdan Tasi placing fourth after submitting 8:14.33 and Haggan GWM and Hong Kong United ranked fifth and sixth, respec-

See MOC on Page 26

NMIFA has 2 new licensed coaches

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association president Jerry Tan has announced that the CNMI has two new AFC C licensed coaches in Irish Pagarao and Mae Ito.

"Congratulations to coaches Irish and May for passing the AFC C coaching course," Tan said during the send-off ceremony for the CNMI U19 Women's National Team last week at Kanoa Resort.

Pagarao and Ito took the course at the Guam Football Association National Training Center in Harmon last month and joined 21 other participants in the two-week event. AFC instructor Marlon Manos Maro of the Philippines conducted the course, which is one of the requirements to coach a youth national team in an Asian Football Confederation or Fédération Internationale de Football Association-organized tournaments.

"This is good news to our

See NMIFA on Page 26

GUAM FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
Irish Pagao, left, and Mae Ito, right pose for a photo with AFC instructor Marlon Manos Maro of the Philippines after attending a C coaching course in Guam last month.